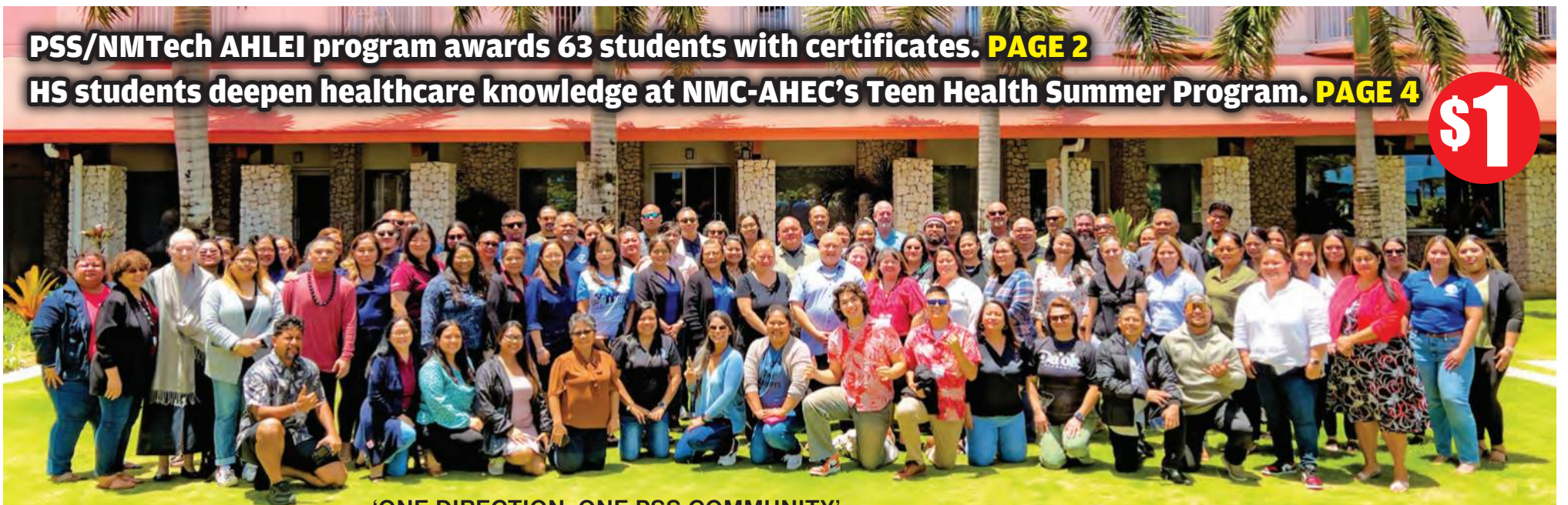


PSS/NMTECH AHLEI program awards 63 students with certificates. **PAGE 2**

HS students deepen healthcare knowledge at NMC-AHEC's Teen Health Summer Program. **PAGE 4**

\$1



'ONE DIRECTION, ONE PSS COMMUNITY'

Education Commissioner Dr. Lawrence F. Camacho, center, standing, joined Public School System leaders and stakeholders at last Friday's conclusion of the 2024 Strategic Planning Institute, which ran on June 17, 18, 20, and 21 at the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan. Following the institute, Camacho acknowledged that "as one PSS community, we are now able to see one direction that we are going cohesively as a team, and the next step is to work on our critical initiatives as part of a purposeful continuous improvement plan." The summit was facilitated by Dr. Allison Layland, third left, chief education strategist for the Academic Development Institute and the U.S. Department of Education's Region 18 Comprehensive Center.

PSS

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXXIV, Issue No. 125

www.saipantribune.com

MONDAY JUNE 24, 2024

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ON TOP OF \$7M REQUEST

IPI requests another \$1M in DIP financing

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC has amended its request with the NMI Bankruptcy Court and instead of debtor-in-possession financing for just the remaining \$6.6 million of a \$7-million loan it previously identified, the casino investor is asking the court to approve DIP financing for the remaining \$6.6 million and an additional \$1 million.

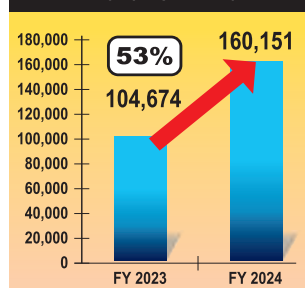
See IPI on Page 4

Tourist arrivals up 9% in May 2024

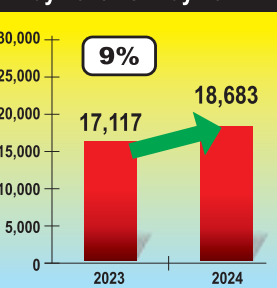
According to the Marianas Visitors Authority, arrivals to the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota grew 9% to 18,680 visitors in May 2024, compared to 17,117 visitors received in May 2023. Monthly arrivals were 51% lower compared to pre-pandemic levels of May 2019, when arrivals reached 38,262 visitors.

Visitor arrivals from South Korea registered 13,378 in

Visitor Arrivals Year to Date FY 2023 vs. FY 2024



Visitor Arrivals May 2023 vs. May 2024



Source: Marianas Visitors Authority

May, 4% lower than May 2023. While year-to-date visitor arrivals from South Korea have recovered to 20% compared to FY 2019 before the pandemic, the small percentage decline in May is largely due to an extra high number of arrivals last May, when pent-up travel demand after the pandemic had created a surge of outbound travel from Korea. Direct flight service is

See TOURIST on Page 4

Former managing director is MVA's newest board member

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority held an election during its general membership meeting last week and former MVA managing director Vicky Benavente was



Benavente

named the MVA board's newest member.

Last Thursday, MVA held its biannual general membership meeting and board election at

the Saipan World Resort.

Following the election, MVA members voted to retain three incumbent board members: Gloria Cavanagh, vice president, Marianas E-Land Group of Companies; Masaru Sunaga, general manager,

See FORMER on Page 4

Teregeyo sentenced to 11 months in prison

By **CHRISTAL MARINO**
chrystal_marino@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

The U.S. District Court for the NMI has sentenced Vickilyn Manglona Teregeyo to 11 months in prison with credit for time served

with no supervised release as well as the revocation of her supervised release.

The jail term is in connection with her repeated violations on the conditions of her supervised release, culminating in her failure to return to

the HOPE Recovery Center. She also has a troubling pattern of noncompliance, which began in December 2023 when she tested positive for methamphetamine twice.

Teregeyo's final disposition
See PRISON on Page 4

INSIDE



LOCAL

More than 200 community members supported the Saipan Marianas Lions Club's 5-kilometer walkathon last Sunday morning.

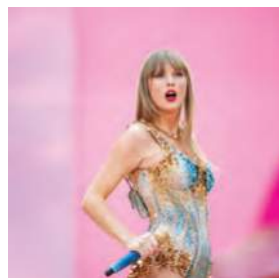
PAGE 3



BUSINESS

Mari Bar is celebrating the month of Philippine Independence with the Mabuhay Street Market on Thursday, June 27, 2024, from 5pm to 9:30pm at the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan.

PAGE 10



LIFE & STYLE

Taylor Swift fans enjoy parsing the singer-songwriter's lyrics for references to her romantic life and insights into her state of mind.

PAGE 11



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FAX: 235-3740

EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

Local

63 students earn PSS/NMTech AHLEI program certification



Marianas High School students receive their Hotel and Lodging Educational Institute Hospitality START program certificates during a ceremony last Tuesday at Saipan World Resort.

NMTech and the Public School System Cooperative Education Program certified 63 students from their American Hotel and Lodging Educational Institute Hospitality program called START. Twenty-three of the students passed this certification with honors, indicating they

scored 90% or above on the exam. A ceremony recognizing their achievement was held at the Saipan World Resort this past Tuesday.

A certification from the AHLEI is the ultimate distinction in hospitality and certification from AHLEI are rec-

ognized worldwide by hotels and resort from large chains to small boutique and individually run operations.

Students learned about 18 positions in the hospitality area ranging from front desk and housekeeping to banquets and restaurant servers. The



Saipan Southern High School students receive their Hotel and Lodging Educational Institute Hospitality START program certificates during a ceremony last Tuesday at Saipan World Resort.

semester-long course included guest speakers, field trips and work experience/shadowing at various hotels on the island.

Education Commissioner Dr. Lawrence Camacho provided the keynote address stressing the importance of "experience-based learning" in helping students be successful beyond high school. He also shared his journey of being raised here in the CNMI and through his military service and career in education and returning home to Saipan just a short time ago to lead PSS.

This semester-long certification class is an elective through the PSS Cooperative Education program under



Education Commissioner Dr. Lawrence Camacho served as the keynote speaker.

Brandon Nicolas, who also provided the closing remarks. The START Hospitality class is offered at all three public high schools on Saipan and would not be possible without the assistance and collaboration of the principals and counseling staff of Marianas High School, Kagman High School, and Saipan Southern High School that help promote the class, recruit students and provide a classroom for this unique opportunity.

This spring semester marks the 10th anniversary of the AHLEI START program in the PSS high schools and this program has certified over 1,600 PSS students in that time. The class is facilitated by Island Training Solutions, the partner for the AHLEI in the CNMI. "We applaud PSS and NMTech for their vision and insight and look forward to another 10-year partnership," said Jim Arenovski, owner of Island Training Solutions. "Although we are currently seeing difficult economic times, and hotel occupancies far below expectations, there

are still tourists choosing to visit the CNMI right now and in my opinion there always will be, and although not at the levels we prefer, tourism is always a part of the CNMI's economy.

He commented "I am bullish on the CNMI. The CNMI is a beautiful destination, and we need to be ready to welcome guests to our island regardless of how many. There will always be the need for certified and trained hospitality staff."

These PSS students now have a solid foundation and credentials to enter the workforce whether in hotels, resorts, restaurants and retail. CNMI hotels and other tourism-related businesses recognize this certification and it signifies the student has taken on additional learning and sacrificed their time to earn this certification and are work-ready.

Students had the opportunity to have work experience at various hotels on Saipan. This semester participating hotels included Crown Plaza Resort Saipan, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Saipan World Resort, Kensington Hotel, and Surf Rider Hotel. Past participating hotels include Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, Coral Ocean Point, and Grandvrio Hotel.

The ceremony was also attended by Senate President Edith DeLeon Guerrero (D-Saipan) and House Speaker Edmund Villagomez (Ind-Saipan), who have been strong supporters of this program, and helped with presenting the certificates to the students. (PR)



Kagman High School students receive their Hotel and Lodging Educational Institute Hospitality START program certificates last Tuesday at Saipan World Resort.



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Adult \$65 / Child \$25 (ages 4-11)



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Island Training Solutions owner Jim Arenovski, left, and Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan executive sous chef Zeen Tomokane, right, pose with a Saipan World Resort staff member who received a certificate of appreciation for hosting the Hotel and Lodging Educational Institute Hospitality START program ceremony.

Over 200 take part in Lions Club's 5K walkathon

By **RACQUEL H. FLOYD**
 raxfloyd@gmail.com
 CORRESPONDENT

More than 200 community members supported the Saipan Marianas Lions Club's 5-kilometer walkathon last Sunday morning.

The 5th Annual Saipan Marianas Lions Club 5K Walkathon started at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan until Hardt Eye Clinic and back and was a fundraiser organized to raise awareness about diabetes and the importance of physical activity for good health.

Saipan Marianas Lions Club president Dyna Bedruz Cabrera said the proceeds from the fundraiser will be donated to the CHCC Dialysis Center and other service activities in the Northern Mariana Islands.

"As Lions serving our community, we support the Lions Clubs International Global Causes of Diabetes, Vision, Childhood Cancer, Hunger and Environment. Where there's a need, there's a Lion—we serve!" she said.

The registration started at 5am in the morning. The

walkathon kicked off with a 30-minute Zumba session facilitated by Fitbeat Familia. Participants then started their 5K walk at exactly 6:30am.

Participants started arriving from their 5K stroll around an hour later. Alongside fresh fruits, juice, and coffee that were served, there were also free reading glasses given out. Volunteer nurses from the CHCC Dialysis Center offered free blood sugar screening and blood pressure reading for the participants.

Ariane Baculod and

Klea Catanos served as the event's emcees.

The morning activity was concluded with a raffle and 76 lucky winners came home with valuable prizes that promote health and wellness.

Saipan Marianas Lions Club would like to thank the following sponsors of the 5th Annual Saipan Marianas Lions Club 5K Walkathon: Tan Holdings & TSL Foundation, Marianas Eye Institute, D&Q International Distributors, Century Insurance, CTSI Logistics, Hardt Eye Clinic,



RACQUEL FLOYD

Free reading glasses were given out during the 5th Annual Saipan Marianas Lions Club 5K Walkathon yesterday.



RACQUEL FLOYD

Participants of the 5th Annual Saipan Marianas Lions Club 5K Walkathon pose for a group photo on the grounds of the Carolinian Utt in Garapan after the event.

Monito Co, SM and Marie Javier, Triple J Wholesale, Cargo Express, WESTCO Quality Feeds, MADFLEX Group, ARMATECH Corp., Chicago Filipino Lions Club, D.G. Blanca Imbo, Marcelo Masilungan, Ladyvir and Jun Canape, Marianas Printing, Micronesian Environmental Services, LLC, Sapphire Enterprises, Marianas Deal, Tom Yum Restaurant, MAR-PAC, Graphics, La Mesa Kusina, Godfather's Bar, Fork & Spoon House of Sizzling, Shirley's Catering, Flor Miranda, Tony Soriano, MARFEGA

Trading, Pho Tam Vietnamese Cuisine, Triple R Auto Shop, Ideal Signs, CNMI Division of Youth Services, CNMI Department of Public Safety, CHCC Dialysis Center, KWA 100 FM Radio Station, Bayani Association, and all Region 2 Lions Clubs and members.

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AM CONSULTING AND GENERAL SERVICES, LLC

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION

A Commonwealth of the
Northern Mariana Islands
Corporation under the name of
AM Consulting and General Services, LLC
is filing this Notice of Dissolution
effective May 10, 2024.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JULY 8th, 2024 TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)

RFP24-CHCC/FINANCE-015
"SINGLE AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEARS ENDING 2022, 2023 & 2024"

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE (WWW.CHCC.HEALTH). ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA /S/ CORA P. ADA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP24-CHCC/CGC-016

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JULY 4th, 2024 TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)

"PROFESSIONAL SERVICES - CLINICAL SUPERVISION"

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE (WWW.CHCC.HEALTH). ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA /S/ CORA P. ADA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp Website: http://www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com

INVITATION FOR BID (IFB)
NMHC IFB 2024-008

(This ad is paid by NMHC by HUD funds)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: August 08, 2024, 2:00 p.m.

MARIANAS HIGH SCHOOL GYM HVAC PROJECT

Project Package will be available on June 24, 2024, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of One-Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) is required for each set of the project package. Payment must be made payable to NMHC and receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the project package at the reception counter.

Brief description of the project package is available on the NMHC CDBG-DR Website at https://www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com/ "Procurement Tab".

The provisions on the NMHC Procurement regulations, NMIAC 100-60-725 AND 100-60-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the NMHC Central Office Conference located in Garapan, Saipan on **July 09, 2024, 10:00 a.m.** In addition, a Mandatory site Visit/Inspection of the project site will be conducted immediately after the Pre-Bid Conference. Failure to attend both the Mandatory Pre-bid conference and the Mandatory site Visit/Inspection will be considered a non-responsive bidder.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-9447 or via email at officemanager@nmhc.gov.net during business hours, 7:30am - 4:30pm Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS /s/ MERCED "MARCIE" M. TOMOKANE
Corporate Director Chairwoman
NMHC Board of Directors

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Board of Directors of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) through its Chairperson, hereby informs the General Public that the NMHC Board of Directors will hold its regular meeting on Thursday, June 27, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be held at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan Saipan. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

- a. Call to Order
- b. Roll Call
- c. Adoption of Agenda
- d. Adoption of Minutes: 04/20/24, 04/30/24, and 05/04/24

PUBLIC COMMENTS

CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- a. NMHC Division Updates
- b. CDBG-DR Housing & Infrastructure Updates
- c. Financial Statements Ending May 31, 2024 - CDBG-DR & NMHC

DEPUTY CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- a. CPD Updates
- b. HAF Updates

OLD BUSINESS

- a. CDBG-DR Housing, Infrastructure, and Economic Development Updates
- b. Draft Board Program Policy and Procedure for Review and Approval
- c. USDA Program Update
- d. Yantze Corporation Status
- e. NMHC Software Upgrade
- f. NMHC Rental Properties Update

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Loan Settlement Proposal (H&E Hofschneider)
- b. Vista Homes Change of Location and Additional Credits Request
- c. MVA Request for Extension
- d. NMHC Grant Program Policy and Procedure

LEGAL COUNSEL'S PENDING/ONGOING REPORT

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. Personnel

ADJOURNMENT

(Notes: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13 (a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ Merced (Marcie) M. Tomokane
Chairperson of the Board


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- Managing online class content and exams from various platforms.
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- Effectively coordinating and communicating with customers, instructors, partners and team members
- Have great time management and scheduling abilities, to deliver tasks thoroughly and on time.
- Strong command of Microsoft Word and Excel.
- The ability to communicate effectively in writing and speaking.
- Must have on-island experience and references.
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islandtrainingsolutions@gmail.com

HS students deepen healthcare knowledge at NMC-AHEC's Teen Health Summer Program



NMC

The Area Health Education Center at Northern Marianas College recently concluded its two-week Teen Health Summer Program, in which 26 high school students received training in CPR, first-aid, mental health, nutrition and health, and a glimpse into high-demand medical career pathways.

Twenty-six high school students recently completed a two-week teen health summer program organized and spon-

sored by the Area Health Education Center at the Northern Marianas College.

The summer program, which

was held from June 10 to 21, 2024, provided students with hands-on experience, including CPR/first aid, mental health

awareness, nutrition and health, and a glimpse into high-demand medical career pathways.

During the camp, students

engaged in a variety of activities, including participating in a mini health career expo where different healthcare organizations shared valuable insights about their profession; learning communication, team building and leadership skills; learning how to suture and stitch a simulated open wound; creating their own arm casts; participating in a simulation training using high fidelity mannequins; learning basic CPR skills; monitoring their blood pressure and heart rates; learning about mental health and suicide awareness; engaging in a Zumba fitness session; gaining insights about the importance of healthy eating, how to read nutrition facts, and create a healthy dish; and exploring career options in nursing and other allied healthcare fields.

Justice Aldan, a senior at Tinian Junior/Senior High School, said that he enjoyed making new friends while expanding his knowledge in

different healthcare fields. "Getting to meet with people from different healthcare backgrounds has opened up my mind to all the different careers I can do," Aldan said. "After completing this program, I learned that I wanted to be a counselor after getting a chance to interact with them at the health expo that my classmates and I attended. Counseling stood out the most to me because they are great human beings and love to help others."

AHEC is a federally funded program under the University of Hawaii-Pacific Basin AHEC that provides health care education and training to students and professionals in the CNMI. The program is designed to increase the number of health care professionals in the region and to improve the quality of health care for all residents.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

FORMER

From page 1

Tasi Tours Transportation; and Ivan Quichocho, general manager, Century Hotel/Century Tours/SeaTouch; and elected former MVA managing director Benavente as its newest board member.

The election winners will serve on the MVA board for a four-year term.

Aside from the winners, the other nominees were incumbent board member Christopher Nelson, president, Flame

Tree TV, Marianas Trekking; Doyi Kim, vice president, P&A Corp.; Perry Inos, partner and managing director, Tapped Out/AP Group; and Bochyul "James" Kim, president, Monster Pizza Pub and Sasamo Tour.

In an interview with MVA managing director Christopher Concepcion, he congratulated the four newly elected board members.

"We have three incumbents: Gloria, Ivan, and Masaru. We have our newest board member, Vicky. She brings a wealth of experience to the tourism

industry. Vicky used to be MVA's managing director. She has also worked with many different hotels in the CNMI. Her experience is going to be valuable for us as we move the tourism industry forward," Concepcion said.

In an interview with Benavente, she said she feels very excited.

"There's a lot of work to do. We have [a] good feeling from the business community that we are all in this together. My number one priority is to help MVA get its funding, and keep it funded so we

can compete in marketing to get visitors here, and get the word out," she said.

As for promoting the CNMI in Japan, Benavente said it's too soon for her to speak about it.

"But I will support the Japan and Korea markets, and of course we need another source market and we all need to work on that," she said.

The guest speakers at the general meeting were MVA Korea in-country manager Sejin Kim and the representatives of MVA's advertising agency for Japan, Kelly Nguyen and Asumi Yamayoshi.

TOURIST

From page 1

provided to Saipan from Seoul by Jeju Air and T'Way, as well as Asiana Airlines, which will be closing its Saipan office at the end of this month. During the peak summer season, Jeju Air will add an additional flight from July 17 to Aug. 18 to capture demand during high peak summer season,

making three daily flights on the Incheon-Saipan route by Jeju and one daily flight by T'Way. Visitors from Korea comprise 76% of all arrivals to the Marianas.

Visitor arrivals from Japan registered 859 in May 2024 compared to 649 visitors in May 2023, a 32% increase. United Airlines flies three times weekly from Tokyo-Narita to Saipan. Beginning May 7, United started a new, more conve-

nient flight schedule, which has helped nudge up arrivals. However, the strong U.S. dollar and weaker Japanese yen continue to influence travelers to choose non-U.S. or domestic destinations at this time.

With the advent in late April of twice weekly direct flights from Hong Kong to Saipan via Hong Kong Airlines, China has marked its highest monthly arrivals since before the pandemic when direct flights

were halted. China arrivals in May 2024 reached 2,061 compared to 392 arrivals in May 2023. Prior to the pandemic, China was the second largest source market of visitors to the Marianas with multiple direct flights a week from five cities.

In May, the Marianas also received 1,096 visitors from Guam, 754 visitors from the United States, and a combined 532 visitors from all other markets. (PR)

PRISON

From page 1

tion hearing was held late last Friday afternoon at the District Court in Gualo Rai under Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona.

Appearing on her behalf were defense attorneys Richard C. Miller and David G. Banes and representing the government was assistant U.S. attorney Eric O'Malley.

Upon the hearing's opening, Miller informed the court that the defense is not ready to proceed with the hearing because a representative from HOPE Recovery Center, who had agreed to testify on behalf of Teregeyo, had been unavailable until the following hour. He requested a brief continuance.

O'Malley responded, indicating that the government has questions for Teregeyo and

opposes the defendant's release pending the continuance. However, O'Malley did not object to a short continuance. After asking the defense what was known to be reiterated in the testimony, defense listed to the court several already mentioned details, but also revealed that the termination of Teregeyo from the HOPE Recovery Center, was only matter of protocol and automatic, it was not caused by aggravation. The court expressed its position, noting that it can proceed with the disposition hearing based on the defendant's progress at HOPE, as proffered by the defense. The court then declined the request for a continuance.

U.S. Probation Officer Gregory Arriola gave an oral update to the court on the sweat patch tests, with the most recent from June 3, 2024 to June 6, 2024 also testing positive, making eight tests

since the initial positive testing in December 2023. One test in February had been considered tampered with after Teregeyo failed to report the removal of the patch. The incident was followed shortly after by her own confession to the use of methamphetamine.

O'Malley also confirmed the termination of Teregeyo at the HOPE Recovery Center. After which, Arriola reported that he did not receive an updated report as to the defendant's progress while at the HOPE Recovery Center.

Arguments were made, and in his arguments, Miller said that he did not oppose there be a punishment, but asked the court to lighten the sentence. He shared that coming up with an argument proved to him difficult as working with Teregeyo was in his words a "Jekyll and Hyde" situation. Miller asked the court to take into account Teregeyo's past,

her underlying health and mental conditions, and the fact that she has children.

Manglona shared that, so far, the court has been gracious taking into account her situations and has lightened the sentence before with the condition that she undergo treatment at the HOPE Recovery Center. With Teregeyo's violations of the agreement and her termination from the center, her continual positive tests, Manglona said she knows Teregeyo can put in the work, but she doesn't see that happening. Manglona said that she hopes through the sentencing, Teregeyo can be moved to begin to change. Manglona did concede to the defense's request for Teregeyo to be imprisoned on Saipan and closer to her family.

Teregeyo was then handed back to the custody to the U.S. Marshal.

IPI

From page 1

During a hearing last Friday, NMI Bankruptcy Court Chief Judge Presiding Ramona V. Manglona addressed IPI's motion for an order authorizing the casino investor to obtain a post-petition secured indebtedness, or DIP financing, for a \$7-million loan it identified. IPI attorney Chuck Choi further arguments as to the DIP loan and made an oral amendment to the motion and requested for an additional \$1 million as opposed to the \$6.6 million, on the same terms the court previously approved in the interim order authorizing an initial withdrawal of \$400,000.

After making the oral motion, Christopher Wong, the proposed pro hac vice attorney for IPI's creditors, made arguments and stated the creditor's position and requested that IPI provide a revised budget.

Meanwhile, attorney Joey San Nicolas, attorney for IPI's financier Loi Lam Sit, informed the court that he met with Sit on June 19, via WhatsApp, and discussed terms of the loan. He represented that Sit does not oppose the additional \$1 million as suggested by IPI.

San Nicolas further stated that Sit is prepared to file a supplemental declaration identifying himself and provide biodata.

Office of the Attorney General's Robert Glass Jr, attorney for the CNMI, objected IPI's request for additional financing.

Attorney Aaron Halegua, who represents IPI creditor Joshua Gray, also objected to the casino investor's request

of additional funding.

The court informed the parties that it is inclined to continue the matter to next week to allow IPI to produce a revised budget to justify the request for additional funds.

The court has continued the hearing for IPI's DIP financing request for June 27.

In related news, Choi clarified for the court that the interim DIP financing of \$400,000 was received last week.

The court ordered IPI's Howyo Chi to make payment to Department of Public Lands in the amount of \$207,000.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, last week, the official committee of general IPI unsecured creditors, through attorneys Aram Ordubegian and Christopher K.S. Wong, filed a supplemental opposition to the final approval of the motion for order authorizing DIP financing for the remaining \$6.6 million of the \$7-million loan IPI has allegedly secured.

Essentially, IPI managed to secure a \$7-million loan from a Hong Kong-based financing institution. However, DIP financing through the court is needed to ensure that should IPI fail in its attempt to restructure and must liquidate all assets to pay off creditors, the lender and its loan is given priority.

According to the motion, during the May 30 hearing, the court granted IPI's motion on an interim basis, authorizing IPI to obtain an initial advance of \$400,000 of the \$7 million from Mr. Loi Lam Sit.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

Tupu Cane Juice is latest ProaPerks Partner



NMC

Tupu Cane Juice is the latest company to sign on as a Northern Marianas College ProaPerks Partner, joining many other businesses and organizations. More information about their special promotion for ProaPerks card holders can be found at www.marianas.edu/proaperks.

Tupu Cane Juice has recently joined the Northern Marianas College ProaPerks Partners, becoming the newest addition to a growing list of businesses and organizations in the program. All NMC ProaPerks card holders can now enjoy a 15% discount on all purchases or opt to get one drink 50% off when purchasing three drinks. In addition, cardholders are entitled to one free topping for their drink.

Tupu Cane Juice is located on Paseo De Marianas in Garapan, and more information can be found on their Instagram page (@tupucanejuice) or on their website tupucanejuice.com.

Tupu Cane Juice joins the growing list of ProaPerks partners, such as 153 Restaurant, 360 Restaurant, 4EVER CNMI, Alamo Car Rental, AllStar Sporting Goods, Aqua Connections, Inc., AQUA-SMITH, Athlete's Foot, Avis Rent A Car, BAB Korean Restaurant Cup Bab, Beach Garden Hotel & Apartment, Bistro Marianas, Capital Hotel, Chagi Norf Kitchen, Boarderline, Bolis R US 2, Candle J, Caravan of Food, Casa Decor, Casa Urashima, Chelu Alynez Enterprise, Chungi Wa Korean Restaurant, Clear Water Place, Clear Water Residence, Clear Water Villa, Coral Garden Hotel, Cosmos Lounge, D' Chef's Kitchen, Docomo Pacific, Dollar Days, Enterprise Car Rental, Ete Cafe, Fishing Tackle and Sporting Goods, Flame Angel, Fork and Spoon, Furusato Restaurant, Garapan Restaurant Cafe & Grill, GIG Night Club Oasis, Gold's Gym, Great Harvest, Boyer Trading Company LLC, dba Ginen Saipan, Hafa Adai Rent A Car, Hardt Eye Clinic, Inc., Healing Stones Spa, Highway Express Auto Care Center, Herman's Modern Bakery, Inc., Hertz Rental Car, Hyatt, Hotel Americano,

Ina's Kitchen, International Roller Skates, Isla Shave Ice, Islander Rent A Car, Java Joe's, JC Cafe, Jhen's Sweet Corner Cakes, Judy's Cafe & Restaurant, Kentucky Fried Chicken/Taco Bell, Kiki's, Korea House Restaurant, Latte Built Gym, Lohas Massage, Lohas Nails, Lucky Store, Lucky II Mart, Magbers Snack Bar, Majesty Restaurant, Mango Sole, Lighthouse, Marianas Creation, MMC & Pacific Labs, LLC, Megabyte, Mermaid Restaurant & Milk tea, Namaste Beautiuf Salon & Spa, Nam Dae Moon, National Car Rental, Natural Nail & Spa, Neni Girl Nails, NMC Bookstore, Ocean Star Restaurant, Pacific Home Appliances, Paradise Dental Spa, Paradiso Resort & Spa, Pena House Pizzeria Bar & Grill, Pokiyaki, Residence Lodge,

Saipan Computer Services, Salt & Barber Salon, Shirley's Cafe, Spicy Thai Noodle, Salty's, Smiley Cafe & Playland, Stay Cafe, Summit Auto Repair Shop, Surf Club, Residence Lodge, Tapped Out, Tempura's Best Restaurant, The Hut, The Ohala Foundation Clothing, The Pacific Supply, The Shack, Time Creation Corp., Tinian Diamond Hotel, Tom Yum Restaurant, Tribe Marianas, MangoSole, and Triple J Motors.

Companies and other interested organizations who would like to become part of the ProaPerks program and take advantage of the buying power of thousands of individuals that include Northern Marianas College alumni, students, and employees, can find more information by emailing proaperks@marianas.edu. (PR)



JOETEN-KIYU PUBLIC LIBRARY
CNMI STATE LIBRARY
P.O. Box 501092 CK, 2745 Insatto Street, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 235-7322/23 or 7315 • Fax: (670) 235-7550
Website: <http://www.cnmilb.org> Email: cnmistatelibrary@gmail.com

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP24-JKPL -42400099:
ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR JKPL SOLAR PV PARKING STRUCTURE PROJECT

SUBMISSION DATE: 10:00 AM ChST JULY 10, 2024

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library (JKPL), under the auspices of the Office of the Governor, is soliciting sealed proposals for the design of a Parking Structure with Solar Photovoltaics (PV) Lighting System, also known as a solar car parking structure, on the west side of the main facility. Funding for this project was made available through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Office through US Congressional Earmarking Funds.

The project package will be available in digital format only beginning **June 11, 2024** online at Vendor Self Service at selfservice.dof.gov.mp/vss/Vendors/VBids.

A **Pre-Proposal Conference** will be held virtually at the JKPL Conference Room, Susupe, Saipan at **10:00 AM on ChST June 25, 2024**. Questions regarding this RFP may be submitted via email to Mrs. Erlinda C. Naputi, Library Director, at ecnaputi@gmail.com no later than **4:00 PM ChST July 2, 2024**. All questions & answers will be shared with all prospective proposers.

Proposers located outside of the CNMI must fill out and submit the Notice of Intent Form to the Acting Director of Procurement Services via email (bidintent@dof.gov.mp) no later than **10:00 AM ChST, July 10, 2024**.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS, AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ Erlinda C. Naputi, Library Director
Joeten-Kiyu Public Library

/S/ Brian S. Nicholas Jr., Acting Director
Division of Procurement Services



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cnmiports.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 08-2024

Opening date: June 24, 2024

Closing date: July 12, 2024

Location: SAIPAN

Position(s): (1) ARFF Mechanic II
(1) Executive/Board Secretary

SALARY

PL 6/1 to 6/12 (\$9.27/hr to \$15.85/hr)
PL 17/1 to 17/12 (\$15.85/hr to \$27.12/hr)

Location: TINIAN

Position(s): (4) AOA Controller/Ground Maintenance-I

SALARY

PL 5/1 to 5/12 (\$8.83/hr to \$15.10/hr)

Location: ROTA SEAPORT

Position(s): (1) General Maintenance-II

SALARY

PL 5/1 to 5/12 (\$8.83/hr to \$15.10/hr)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the **CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office, Tinian International Airport, or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport**. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10-year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport is no later than **5:00 P.M. on Friday, July 12, 2024**.

Detailed information on qualifications and position descriptions for the above positions may be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., except on holidays and austerity, at the CPA Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at lorna.robert@cnmiports.com and hrrspecialist@cnmiports.com or by phone at (670)237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

LEO B. TUDELA
Executive Director



COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION



INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-24-026

CUSTOMIZED SEWER LINE INSPECTION & GROUTING TRUCK ACQUISITION

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified Vendors for the Customized Sewer Line Inspection & Grouting Truck Acquisition in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

The IFB Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-24-026, Customized Sewer Line Inspection & Grouting Truck Acquisition"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on July 3, 2024** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal, or courier service must be received on or before the due date and time or post-marked before the submission deadline. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or supply under the contract. The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for goods. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations. All responses to this IFB should consider all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the proponent's obligation upon award of a contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained from registered bidders and must be submitted in writing **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on June 10, 2024**, to Manny B. Sablan, CUC's Purchasing Administrator, via email manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Rodolfo Rodriguez, Water/Wastewater Division Manager via email rodolfo.rodriguez@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, Senior Administrative Technician at marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bidders for any reason and to waive any defects in said IFB, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

BETTINA G. TERLAJE
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Mark Rabago EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

‘Cheap fake’—Right-wing media pushes Biden-is-senile trope with deception

Yes, President Joe Biden tends to shuffle when he walks these days. Yes, he can pause a little too long between sentences. And, no, entering his 80s hasn't improved his lifelong rhetorical clumsiness.

But the blatant disinformation campaign by right-wing media circus barkers lately, selectively editing imagery of perfectly normal Biden moments to make them look like instances of aimless wandering and confusion, is, in a word, grotesque.

Let's review:

At the recent meeting in Italy of G7 nations, Biden and other world leaders watched skydivers land near them. Media videos show Biden briefly stepping away from the other leaders to address some of the skydivers, giving a thumbs up and getting smiles from them in return. After a moment, Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni interrupts Biden with a tap on his arm to rejoin the group.

There's nothing remarkable about the scene—at least until the Republican National Committee got done manipulating it.

The RNC's political research account on X (formerly Twitter) posted a video taken from an angle that makes it look like Biden is wandering aimlessly away from the group and not interacting with anyone. Stripped of context, Meloni's tap on Biden's arm creates the impression of an eldercare nurse corraling a wayward geriatric.

“WHAT IS BIDEN DOING?” asks the RNC feed.

Again: He's talking to the skydivers. Though the editors at the RNC made good and sure that viewers didn't see that part.

This is what's known as a “cheap fake.” Instead of a “deep fake,” in which imagery is outright fabricated, cheap fakes are real imagery that has been manipulated through selective camera angles, deceptive cropping and twisted context to give a false impression.

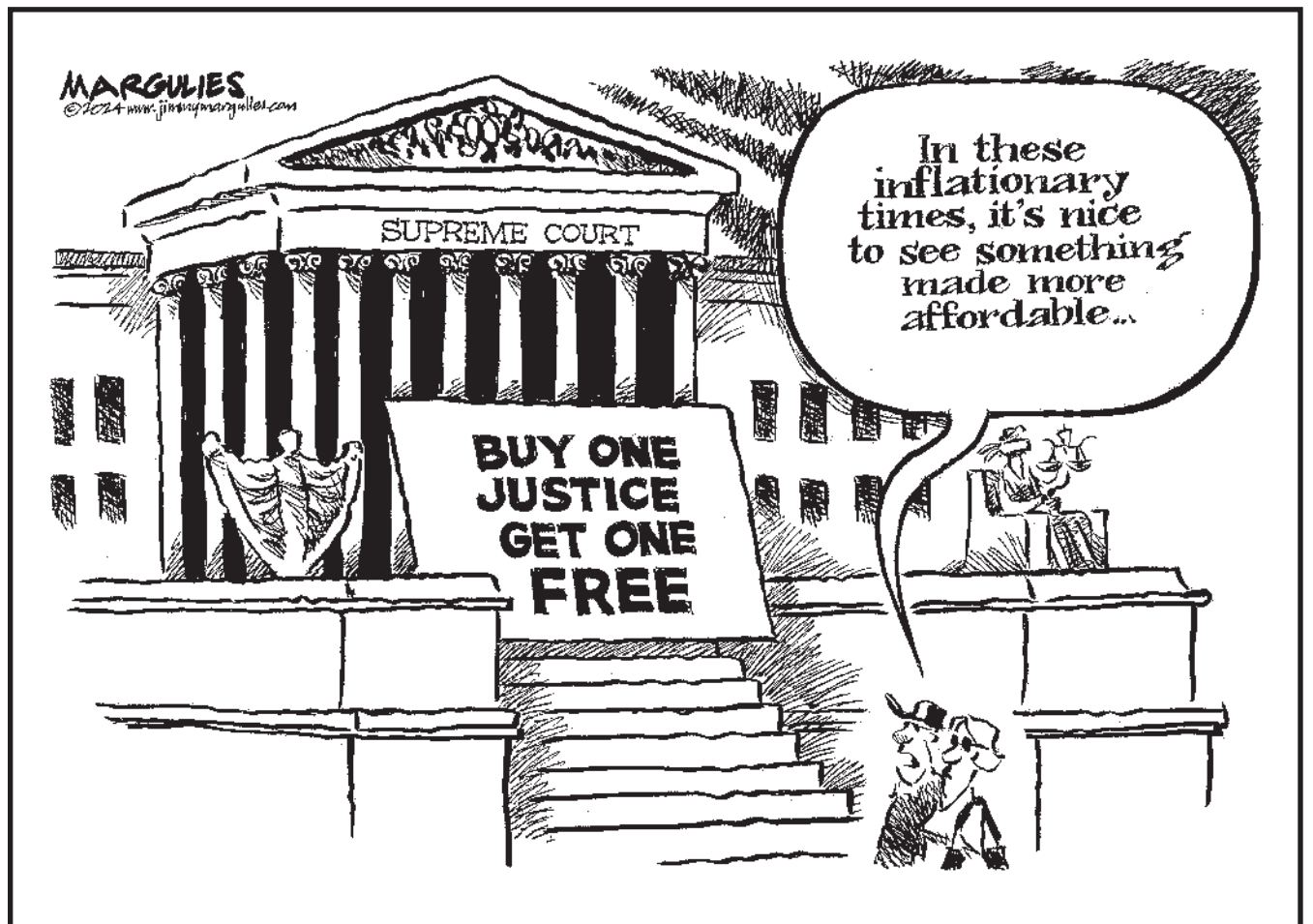
That the RNC would do this is hardly surprising, as former President Donald Trump has effectively commandeered the organization. But the amplification of this fraud by even supposedly serious right-leaning news outlets should give pause to their viewers and readers.

“Meander in Chief,” bellowed the New York Post's front page, with a photo dutifully cropped to confirm the lie. “Biden wanders off during G-7 in Italy,” proclaims an online subhead under a Fox & Friends segment. Others followed suit.

This coordinated misleading of its own news consumers isn't an isolated incident among right-wing media.

Video from a recent joint appearance with former President Barack Obama shows Biden basking in the audience's applause for a moment, before Obama accompanies him off-stage with a hand on his shoulder. It looks like nothing more than the genuine affection known to exist between the two men—but another Fox News headline declared: “Obama leading Biden off LA fundraiser's stage just latest example of

See **CHEAP** on Next Page



Supreme Court's far right faces a free-speech problem

This Supreme Court term promises to be important for the First Amendment. Major decisions are expected soon on the rights of social media platforms and their users. But the free-speech fun has already begun.

In an otherwise unremarkable trademark case, a major debate about how to decide First Amendment issues broke out. On one side was Justice Clarence Thomas, joined fully by Justices Samuel Alito and Neil Gorsuch, pushing the hard-line conservatives' new “history and tradition” approach to interpreting laws. On the other was Justice Amy Coney Barrett, joined fully by Justice Elena Kagan and partly by Justices Sonia Sotomayor and Ketanji Brown Jackson, calling for a simple rule drawn from analogous free-speech precedent.

There are a number of important takeaways, but the most relevant right now is that neither originalism nor the more malleable “history and tradition” can help solve new problems in free-speech law.

The trademark case, *Vidal v. Elster*, was initiated by one Steve Elster, who tried to trademark the phrase “Trump too small.” The Patent and Trademark Office rejected the trademark because the Lanham Act says you can't trademark the name of a living individual without his or her consent. In court, Elster argued that the living person rule should be held unconstitutional because applying it requires reading the trademark to ascertain if it contains the name of a living person. According to a formalistic rule first formulated by Thomas in a 2015 case, if a law requires you to look at the content of an utterance to apply the law, it presumptively violates free speech.

Applying Thomas's absolutist free-speech rule to the living persons law would produce the absurd result that the living persons rule should be struck down: The only way you can tell if a trademark includes the name of a living person is by reading what the trademark says.

So Thomas broke out the conservatives' favorite new constitutional toy, the idea that the Constitution should be interpreted according to “history and tradition.” This approach has been used by the conservative court in the last couple of years to reverse *Roe v. Wade*, vastly expand gun rights, and overturn 50-plus years of existing doctrine on the separation of church and state. Thomas based his majority opinion on the idea that trademark law has been around for a long time and no one has ever seriously thought the living persons rule violated the First Amendment.

On the surface this may sound like a reasonable approach. The problem is that, if you really take history and tradition back to 1791 and earlier in the free-speech context, you would have to

By **NOAH FELDMAN**

Bloomberg Opinion

Noah Feldman is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist. A professor of law at Harvard University, he is author, most recently, of “To Be a Jew Today: A New Guide to God, Israel, and the Jewish People.”



trash nearly the entirety of free-speech doctrine, which was created by judges in the 20th and 21st centuries.

The First Amendment as ratified and understood in 1791 didn't receive any meaningful doctrinal development by the Supreme Court until 1919, when Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes initiated modern free-speech doctrine. At the time, Holmes himself acknowledged that it wasn't clear if the framers had intended the First Amendment to do anything more than prohibit pre-emptive censorship. In other words, when it comes to free speech, originalism is useless. History and tradition is little better.

Barrett understands all this very clearly. She wrote a concurrence explaining that Thomas's historical analysis was unconvincing and that history and tradition would be a bad way to decide free-speech cases. Instead, she proposed a simple, clear rule: There is nothing wrong with content-based trademark rules as long as they are reasonably related to the two purposes of trademark law, protecting the trademark owner and enabling consumers to tell products from each other.

To be sure, Barrett's opinion isn't some foray into liberalism. It's just a demonstration of doctrinal intelligence and honesty in the face of the mumbo-jumbo of history and tradition. Indeed, as is frequently the case for Barrett, the guiding spirit behind her position is that of the late Justice Antonin Scalia, for whom she clerked. Barrett explained neatly that Thomas had failed to “adopt a generally applicable principle” in his opinion—the cardinal sin for Scalia, who believed that, as he once put it, the rule of law should be a law of rules.

The upshot is that Barrett is registering skepticism about history and tradition in general—and offering a particularly appropriate and devastating riposte to its use in free-speech cases.

Whatever the court decides about social media, it would do better to apply First Amendment doctrine in the light of the purposes of free expression, not based on vague history and tradition that long preceded social media's invention.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

FestPAC offers lessons of Pacific unity

The sound of conch shells and the incessant beat of drums reached from the white sands of Kualoa Beach Park and across the centuries. The popular beach park was the venue for the recent arrival of voyaging canoes carrying officials for the opening event of the 13th Festival of Pacific Arts, which Hawaii was hosting for the first time in the Festival's 52-year history. FestPAC brought together over 2,000 of the best artists and dancers from more than 20 Pacific Islands countries and territories.

My guess is that Hawaii may never be the same because of the Festival. Each day brought new teachable moments for the large crowds that packed the Hawaii Convention Center, the main venue. Let me share two such lessons.

Lesson One is the overriding importance of protocol in the Pacific, where elected and traditional leaders share places of honor in daily life. I'm particularly sensitive to this point because I have two friends who were recently made high or paramount chiefs, and both hold or have held high elected office. And both have strong Hawaii ties.

One is Christopher Loeak, former president of the independent Republic of the Marshall Islands, who last fall in an elaborate ceremony called Kailoj had his already high chiefly status elevated to Iroijlaplap or paramount chief. A softspoken man who was educated at Hawaii Pacific University, President Loeak comes from a long lineage of influential iroij or chiefs in the Marshall Islands. He and his wife, who is also of chiefly rank, are often in Hawaii.

The other friend is U.S. Representative Amata Coleman Radewagen. She was recently bestowed with a high chief's title in her native American Samoa, which she represents in Congress. The special honor—the title, created over a century ago, was given to her father, the late American Samoa Governor Peter Tali Coleman, a graduate of St. Louis School—was presented during an ancient ceremony known as a saofa'i in Pago Pago. Congresswoman Radewagen's late mother, Nora Stewart, was of Hawaiian ancestry.



TULAGA WHITCOMBE

Afioga Uifa'atali Amata Radewagen performs a siva siva after being made a high chief during a saofa'i ceremony in Pago Pago, American Samoa.

Hers is a good example of the challenges we in Hawaii, and Americans in general, have getting it right when it comes to proper Pacific protocol. If proper protocol were to be followed, the Congresswoman should now be formally known as The Honorable Afioga Uifa'atali Amataupulevasegaotupu Catherine Coleman Radewagen, MC.

Now it should be noted that during FestPAC Hawaiians were

By **FLOYD K. TAKEUCHI**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Floyd K. Takeuchi is a Honolulu-based writer-photographer who does much of his work in the Pacific Islands. This commentary first ran in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser's Views & Voices section on June 11, 2024.



not unknowing in matters of Pacific protocol. Far from it. Perhaps the most powerful moment came, appropriately enough, on the grounds of Iolani Palace from hula halau. That's where dancers from Halau Na Mamo O Puuanahulu and Halau Hula Ka Lehua Tuahine performed historic hula of high honor for guests who were all Pacific traditional leaders. Those leaders responded with shouts of "Vinaka!" and "maloi!" (thank you).

In Congresswoman Radewagen's case, she is taking this one step at a time. "It's hard enough to pronounce," she told me of her married name, Radewagen, which is of German heritage "So as much as I would like, I'm not about to inflict Afioga Uifa'atali on the palagis (the Samoan word for outsiders, similar to haole in Hawaii) in Washington."

I mention this in some detail because of Lesson Two: FestPac may have been the first time many Native Hawaiians heard other Pacific Islanders refer to these islands as a "host nation." That honor, expressed many times, was most poignantly made during FestPac's ecumenical church service when members of the American Samoan delegation sang a medley of "Hawaii Aloha" and "Lota Nu'u Moni," a traditional Samoan hymn.

To hear those magnificent Samoan voices sing "Hawaii Aloha" in perfect harmony in honor of the Hawaiian nation was a life changing moment. Listening to one proud Polynesian race sing praises of another, you could feel that anything was possible.

Juneteenth and Summer Solstice, June 19 and 20

President Joe Biden signed a bill on June 17, 2021, making Juneteenth the 11th American federal holiday. It was on June 19, 1865, when Major General Gordon Granger ordered the final enforcement of the Emancipation Proclamation in Texas at the end of the American Civil War.

Summer Solstice, June 20, 2024, is the longest day of the year and the first day of summer. On this day the Earth and the Sun are sympatico with Juneteenth about equality.

Here are two love sonnets by Countee Cullen, the 'Voice of the Harlem Renaissance' to help you celebrate these days:

SONNET by Countee Cullen (b. 1903-d.1946)

I know more about a man whose blood is hot
And rich, still undiminished of desire,
Thinking (too soon), "The world is dust and mire,"
Must feel who takes to wife four walls, a cot,
A hempen robe and cowl, saying, "I'll not
To anything, save God and Heaven's fire,
Permit a thought; and I will never tire
Of Christ, and Him all shall be forgot."

He too, as it were Torquemada's rack,
Writhes piteously on that unyielding bed,
Crying, "Take Heaven all, but give me back
Those words and sighs without which I am dead;
Which thinking on are lances, and I reel."
Letting you go, I know how he would feel."

Tomas de Torquemada (1420-98) was the first Grand Inquisitor in Spain, whose name came to represent the horror, cruelty, and bigotry of the Inquisition. He burned more than two thousand at stake.

FROM LIFE TO LOVE, Countee Cullen, 1925

"Four winds and seven seas have called me friend,
And countless roads have known my restless feet;
Deep crystal springs and pollened buds were sweet
For sustenance their princely fare to lend,
While nameless birds from grove and blossomed bend
Deluged my soul with song; if it were meet
To love Life so, then Love will but complete
My joy, for Life with Love can never end.

CHEAP

From page 6

allies directing president."

Then there's the recent report from the shady right-wing publication Washington Reporter, falsely claiming the Biden campaign asked CNN to allow Biden to sit during the network's upcoming debate. Though CNN debunked it, the claim has continued to bounce around the MAGA echo chamber. "He can't stand for 90 minutes, but he's 100% able to be President?" gloat-tweeted Sen. Josh Hawley, R-Mo., on Monday, promoting a lie that was still on his official X account as

of Wednesday afternoon.

No one should forget that all this deception is in service to a former president whose own public behavior is not merely geriatric, but often demented.

Trump's recent, random, bizarre riff on sharks is part of a long-held fantastical belief system that includes wind turbines causing cancer, atomic bombs capable of stopping tornadoes and stealth fighter jets that are literally invisible. Not to mention his continued insistence that he won a presidential election he absolutely lost.

Anything resembling that kind of derangement from Biden would be treated as politically apocalyptic. With Trump, it barely gets a mention because the derangement expectation is already built in, not just among his followers but among pretty much

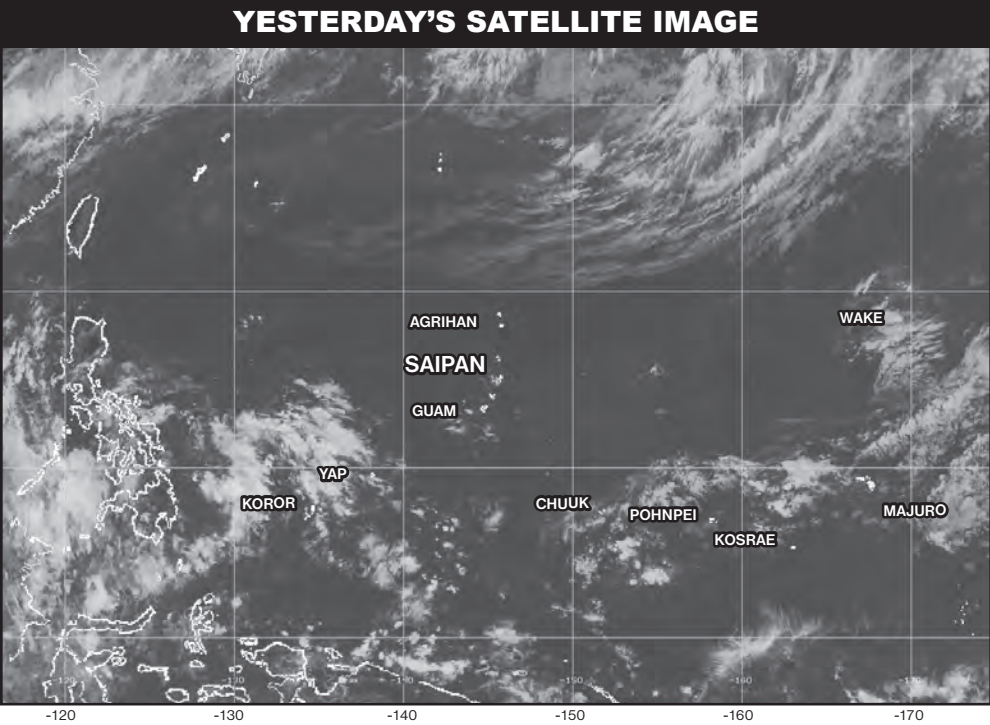
everyone. No one expects normalcy from Trump. Biden, alas, is still held to normal standards.

We have argued Biden should step aside and back a younger, more electable Democrat in this year's presidential election—not because there's actual evidence he's too old for the job, but because enough Americans believe it to endanger his reelection chances (and thus the nation).

That explains the eagerness of right-wing media to promulgate these ageist lies. But if they can't push their Biden-is-senile narrative without shamelessly misleading their own readers and viewers, maybe it says something about their narrative.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
Breezy. Partly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 20 to 25 mph.		Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.		Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers.		Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms.		Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms.	
88°	77°	88°	77°	88°	77°	88°	79°	88°	79°



PICTURE TIME: 7:42 AM SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2024

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Satellite shows partly sunny skies with isolated showers moving through the Marianas Waters today. The Ritidian buoy reveals combined seas of 3 to 5 feet, composed mainly of an east trade-wind swell and wind waves.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: <https://www.weather.gov/gum/>

MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Fair	88° / 81°	
Palau	Showers	89° / 78°	
Yap	Partly Cloudy	85° / 79°	
Chuuk	Mostly Cloudy	87° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	84° / 77°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	84° / 77°	
Majuro	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Tuesday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Wednesday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM
Thursday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM
Friday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	7:35 AM	9:05 PM
Tuesday	-	8:37 AM	9:54 PM
Wednesday	-	9:38 AM	10:39 PM
Thursday	-	10:36 AM	11:20 PM
Friday	-	11:32 AM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Rain	61° / 55°	
Beijing	Fair	91° / 70°	
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	91° / 79°	
Honolulu	Showers	85° / 75°	
London	Thunderstorm	73° / 55°	
Los Angeles	Sunny	82° / 63°	
Manila	Partly Cloudy	93° / 80°	
Melbourne	Rain	55° / 45°	
Miami	Thunderstorm	83° / 77°	
New York	Clear	86° / 70°	
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	86° / 73°	
Paris	Showers	73° / 57°	
Busan	Cloudy	76° / 72°	
Rome	Sunny	90° / 66°	
Salem	Sunny	92° / 69°	
San Francisco	Sunny	67° / 53°	
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	85° / 72°	
Tokyo	Rain Shower	83° / 64°	
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	98° / 78°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
3:26 AM	Low Tide	1.59	
7:51 AM	High Tide	2.07	
3:32 PM	Low Tide	-0.33	
10:58 PM	High Tide	2.12	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2024							
DEPARTURES			ARRIVALS				
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN				
UA076	9:50AM	10:35AM	Daily	UA174	8:00AM	8:50AM	Daily
SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)			NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN				
UA824	11:50AM	2:25PM	1, 3, 5	UA825	5:30PM	9:55PM	2, 4, 7
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)			MANILA (MNL)-GUAM				
PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily	PR110	10:30PM	4:25AM+1	Daily
UA193	6:50PM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Palau	UA184	10:25PM	4:20AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA183	7:10PM	9:10PM	Daily	UA192	10:25PM	6:15AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
				UA184	11:50PM	5:45AM+1	2, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN				
7C3403/2305	4:45AM	10:20PM	Daily	UA192/174	10:25PM	8:50AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
UA076/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam	UA184/174	10:25PM	8:50AM +1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via Guam
UA076/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau	UA184/174	11:50PM	8:50AM +1	2, 5 via Guam
				7C2306/3406	11:10PM	3:10PM+1	Daily
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)			INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN				
TW308	3:15AM	7:00AM	Daily	7C3406	9:30AM	3:10PM	Daily
7C3405	4:10PM	7:45PM	Daily	TW307	8:15PM	1:40AM+1	Daily
7C3403	4:45AM	8:35AM	Daily	7C3404	10:10PM	3:40AM+1	Daily
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN				
HX77	4:05AM	7:00AM	1, 5	HX76	7:25PM	2:35AM+1	4, 7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.						
FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 2, 2024						
SAIPAN TO ROTA						
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	
1301	SAIPAN	ROTA	08:30	09:00	Daily	
1302	SAIPAN	ROTA	10:30	11:00	Daily	
1303	SAIPAN	ROTA	15:30	16:00	Daily	
ROTA TO SAIPAN						
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	
3101	ROTA	SAIPAN	9:30	10:00	Daily	
3102	ROTA	SAIPAN	11:30	12:00	Saturday & Sunday	
3103	ROTA	SAIPAN	13:30	14:00	Monday To Friday	
3104	ROTA	SAIPAN	16:30	17:00	Daily	
ROTA TO GUAM						
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	
3401	ROTA	GUAM	11:30	12:00	Monday To Friday	
GUAM TO ROTA						
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	
4301	GUAM	ROTA	12:30	13:00	Monday To Friday	
SAIPAN TO TINIAN						
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	
1201	SAIPAN	TINIAN	7:30	7:45	Daily	
1202	SAIPAN	TINIAN	8:00	8:15	Daily	
1203	SAIPAN	TINIAN	9:00	9:15	Daily	
1204	SAIPAN	TINIAN	10:00	10:15	Daily	
1206	SAIPAN	TINIAN	14:00	14:15	Daily	
1207	SAIPAN	TINIAN	15:00	15:15	Daily	
1208	SAIPAN	TINIAN	16:00	16:15	Daily	
1209	SAIPAN	TINIAN	17:00	17:15	Daily	
TINIAN TO SAIPAN						
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	
2101	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:00	8:15	Daily	
2102	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:30	8:45	Daily	
2103	TINIAN	SAIPAN	9:30	9:45	Daily	
2104	TINIAN	SAIPAN	10:30	10:45	Daily	
2106	TINIAN	SAIPAN	14:30	14:45	Daily	
2107	TINIAN	SAIPAN	15:30	15:45	Daily	
2108	TINIAN	SAIPAN	16:30	16:45	Daily	
2109	TINIAN	SAIPAN	17:30	17:45	Daily	

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Mount Carmel School’s 4th quarter president’s list and honor roll

Mount Carmel School congratulates these students for making it to the fourth quarter of school year 2023-2024 president’s list and honor roll. Names are arranged alphabetically by first name.

PRESIDENT’S LIST

Students must have a GPA of 4.00 or above and must attain character marks of VG or above.

- 1st Grade
- Adam Lee T. Wesley

■ Averyrose Malia B. Allen

■ Carlos B. Deleon Guerrero

■ Cole H. Pangelinan

■ Coral Jade S. Aldan

■ Emberlee Shae S. Westbrook

■ Erin Rousce P. De Belen

■ Gyaven John F. Serrano

■ Jaxon Bryce P. Camacho

■ Matteo John P. Rizo

■ Nasisa Olivia K. Demapan

■ Stieven Zane A. Dimafelix

■ Thomas Flores

■ Tsuyoshiro Aries K. H. Tutiy

■ Yzzabella F. Vergel de Dios

■ Zun He Wang
- 2nd Grade
- Alexandra Victoria Stuart

■ Angel Sofhia A. Pineda

■ Avalyn Mae N. Lizama

■ Bentley Ellaine C. Santos

■ Chloe Jodia B. Mostales

■ Dylan Jon C. Pangelinan

■ Francine Jaymee O. Pineda

■ Grayson Eunu Jo

■ Isaiah Francisco P. Villagomez

■ Joveoni Dre T. Cruz

■ Journie Kesil F. Castro

■ Liam Tasi S. Ehsa

■ Liv Mariana R. Tajeron

■ Logan Jesus D. Tenorio

■ Rhianna Kay G. Kautz

■ Zhane Graeson V. Jugos
- 3rd Grade
- Ariah Kadyr M. Deleon Guerrero

■ Arielle Jane G. Aniciete

■ Benz Elliott C. Santos

■ Brayden Kane P. Taguchi

■ Carlie W. Bai

■ Eduardo Vicente D. Diaz II

■ Farrell Huan C. Dela Santa

■ Gabriella Salome D. Gamab

■ Haleina Mae M. Maratita

■ Ines F. Maratita

■ Jeremy Sho B. Sasamoto

■ Jesse Joseph Gregory J. Palacios

■ Ji Yoo K. Lee

■ Juliana Riley H. Apelo

■ Leilani Soledad N. Castro

■ Miriam Grace Flores

■ Mya Joy C. Manibusan

■ Rockson R. Cabrera

■ Sumai Francine B. Castro

- Vincent C. Salavaria
- 4th Grade
- Ava Monae C. Basa

■ Chloe Nicole Arnold

■ Ezekiel Ma’nu’i P. Villagomez

■ Gabriella Jo C. Tenorio

■ Isaiah Preston Paul

■ Jace Henry S. Pangelinan

■ Jake Hiram M. Maratita Jr.

■ Khoen Alexander C. Torres

■ Maverick Lo Yamanaka

■ Rei Ezekiel P. De Belen

■ Youngwoo (Stella) Choi

■ Yuna Yu
- 5th Grade
- Clarise Faith C. Garamonte

■ Erika Loreen T. Cuyugan

■ Joseph Francisco D. White

■ Kirk Ivan E. De Perio

■ Logan Kane M. Propst
- 6th Grade
- Althea Dionn B. Lauron

■ Jeongwoo (Ryan) Choi

■ Kennani Vinae C. Villagomez

■ Ki Eun K. Lee

■ Lydia J. Xian

■ Miana Dolores B. Delacruz
- 7th Grade
- Jaze Enzo P. San Nicolas

■ Maria Y. Guerrero

■ O-Ren Fumiyo D. Sasamoto

■ Trisha Juliana D. Abuan
- 8th Grade
- Alexia Aulene M. Rubia

■ Arthur Angel O. Deliva

■ Aubrey Rae T. Quitugua

■ Avania Clarise E. Quichocho

■ Aya D. Santos

■ Cecilia R. Villagomez

■ Cyril Michael S. Pangilinan

■ David John Romaldo S. Apatang Jr.

■ Do Geon Kim

■ Dylan Jacob O. Camacho

■ Gabriella Aundrea B. Inos

■ Heather Elizabeth Pain A. Sin

■ Isabella Soledad G. Demapan

■ Jadine Nicole P. Pangelinan

■ Jener Franz O. Pineda

■ Jessie Chen

■ John Matthew L. Ellama

■ Ju Hwan S. Hyun

■ Julius Y. Sheu

■ Katherine Hwang

■ Kayla Rose Larson

■ Krisha M. Devjani

■ Layla Carmen Ann J. Palacios

■ Mary Shelley C. Deleon Guerrero

■ Remiegem B. Melchor

■ Siwoo Lee

■ Victor Neil M. Santos
- 9th Grade
- Ana Guadalupe M. Villagomez

■ Carly Kate P. Dela Cruz

■ Hope Gianna McQuay

■ Jose Clarence S. Tenorio

- Josephine L. Lopez
- Nicole Angela S. Pangilinan
- Patricia Ann Matsumoto
- Sage R. Villagomez
- Sarah Angela B. Melchor
- Stephanie Joyce C. Sevilla
- 10th Grade
- Arwen Hannah N. Bartolata

■ Camron Xavier S. Pangelinan

■ Chae Eun Kim

■ Emmanuel C. Pontiveros

■ Gavril Myles Santiago

■ Heleyna Frielle C. Dela Santa

■ Jessiana B. Tenorio

■ Jieun Kwon

■ Leonard Jake B. Regalado

■ Mya D. Pangelinan

■ Nyla N. Deleon Guerrero

■ Oscar Bien R. Buenaflor

■ Patricia Denielle G. Lugtu

■ Quincee Emanuele O. Tizon

■ Seunghee (Sunny) Jeon

■ Therese Joy O. Ogo

■ Victor Nash M. Santos

■ William Matthew B. Cano

■ Zion Jude C. Cabrera
- 11th Grade
- Alvin Hong

■ Ari James Toskas

■ Chealzka M. Navarro

■ Chelsy Anne P. Reyes

■ Claire Regina G. Kautz

■ Earl Pete Jacob M. Lacandazo

■ Irie Kane H. Camacho

■ Jada B. Chang

■ Jaeyun Jung

■ Jay Francis Dominic O. Pineda

■ Jeewoo Son

■ Jung Hyun Cho

■ Maili B. Peter

■ Malina Rose B. Tenorio

■ Rafael Mykel Gozon

■ Seungeun Ha

■ Sihyeon Choi

■ Tricia Antonnette J. Palacios

■ Vayden I. Matagolai

■ Yunseong Seol
- 12th Grade
- Avah Marie C. Torres

■ Bernice Shane Q. Sabino

■ Brandon Lee

■ Breanna Sue L. Mafnas

■ Charles Pablo S. Cepeda

■ Earle Gabreil L. San Nicolas

■ Elisa Ellen E. Blanco

■ Eunkyu (Joey) Hong

■ Gwen Tiffany D. Gamab

■ Irish Leilani Castro

■ Jan Marini P. Millo

■ Jerry Chen

■ Jhazmyn Nhicole C. Valiente

■ Juliana T. Vergara

■ Kriselle Bryana Mitzy A. Drillon

■ Krissy Rease F. Cepeda

■ Leyonne Alfred F. Tolentino

■ Maria Yoshie C. Torres

- Mercedes C. Cruz
- Minki Jung
- Natalie Gabrielle E. Ano
- Palikkun S. George Jr.
- Paul Angelo Santos
- Paul William D. Camacho
- Raymana Owen D. Salas
- Ruben Antonio C. Guerrero
- Sanghyeok Lee
- Tyana Kisha T. Tesiro
- Xiang Jun (Jerry) Zeng
- Xin Wen Jin Jin

HONOR ROLL

Students must have a GPA of 3.66 or above and must not have any behavior grade of U or NI.

- 1st Grade
- Ethan D. Brown

■ Kenneth Grey C. McDonald

■ Lauren Reyshell A. Gray

■ Riacca Manahane

■ Zion L. Kim
- 2nd Grade
- Ethan Robert F. Dasalla

■ Landon Jay C. Pangelinan

■ Leihani Lyn Faith K. Reyes

■ Miyah P. Kaipat

■ Yanbin (Jacob) Cui
- 3rd Grade
- Yanchen (Henry) Cui
- 4th Grade
- Aiesha Sadie H. Camacho

■ Aleaya T. Bermudes

■ Aycee Rianne T. Quitugua

■ Felix Ryan N. Tomokane

■ Gino Marvin T. Deleon Guerrero

■ Jamara Jayde C. Cabrera-Sablan

■ Scott Jonathan Y. Muna
- 5th Grade
- Aiyana Carmen B. Pangelinan

■ Alana Lei C. Macaranas

■ Aliyani M. Basa

■ Chloe-Mae Therese Taimanao

■ Christian T. Igisomar

■ Friella Huanne C. Dela Santa

■ Ian James B. De Leon

■ Jacob Asher N. Villacrusis

■ Jake Peter C. Deleon Guerrero Jr.

■ Jonathan L. Zhang

■ Kendra Elise P. Camacho

■ Mateo Moctezuma A. Almada

■ Neia Dolana Noreyemal D. Tagabuel

■ Sera Y. Guerrero
- 6th Grade
- Ava Carmina B. Sablan

■ Ezaela Patrice M. Camacho

■ Jayda Milan T. Torres

■ Jeremy Q. Terlaje

■ Kathleen B. LCan

■ Lilliana Terie A. Villagomez

■ Lily Chantrea R. Lim

■ Mikayla V. Guerrero

- Paige Kanae Y. Muna
- Reef Cole F. Reyes
- Von Derick A. Lauron
- 7th Grade
- Aaron Chenhe Wu

■ Brielle V. Malonzo

■ Caleb John S. Aldan

■ Chase B. Guerrero

■ Franklin Huang

■ Gonshiro Pedro Jose S. Sasamoto

■ Hyun Woo (Kyle) Cho

■ Joey Claude B. Mostales

■ Kainoa B. Tenorio

■ Liana Margaret C. Deleon Guerrero
- 8th Grade
- Anjoelena Rose S. Villagomez

■ Cassidee Jolina C. Flores

■ Ciana Lei B. Demapan

■ Francisco F. Maratita

■ Janessa Francine T. Arriola

■ Kimason R. Cabrera
- 9th Grade
- Akoni Jesus C. Matsumoto

■ Andre Amour B. Zapata

■ Bernard Sean Q. Sabino

■ Christine Rosanne N. Castro

■ Christopher James N. Delacruz

■ Enzo Umeki D. Sasamoto

■ Ethan Jayce H. Tomokane

■ Jeffrey G. Concepcion

■ Kaden Christian M. Propst

■ Patrick V. Guerrero

■ Rafael Elijah P. De Belen

■ Yeonwoo (Kevin) Cho
- 10th Grade
- Alexandria Ysabelle Dysang

■ Annieskha F. Arreza

■ Anthony Christian E. Rivera

■ Ayung Lee

■ Brandon Joseph T. Tesiro

■ Danika P. Atalig

■ Edsel Benedict A. Pagtalunan

■ Eloy I. Deleon Guerrero

■ Frannie I. Ramon

■ Jaclyn Rose Davis

■ June Yu

■ Lance Jericho A. Javier

■ Luis C. Manibusan

■ Mikaehla Paige R. Mendoza
- 11th Grade
- Aryana Carmen A. Taimanao

■ Carlos Joe C. Deleon Guerrero

■ Ernest Mikhail D. Licop

■ Laizza Vianca A. Mallari

■ Mia Ysabela D. Abuan

■ MinJun Ha

■ Minsoo Kwon
- 12th Grade
- Jared Joshua G. Terlaje

■ Jazmin Jay A. Tagabuel

■ Kevin Jia Qi Bao

■ L Wina D. Atalig

■ Luke G. Ubilas

■ Sarawut (Tan) Sukanpong (PR)

San Nicolas’ Bill 243, Resolution 218 makes June session agenda

GUAM—With the support of his legislative colleagues, Democrat Senator Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas successfully got Bill No. 243-37 (COR) and Resolution No. 218-37 (COR) on the June session agenda, during the Committee on Rules meeting at the Guam Congress Building in Hagåtña on June 13.

Bill 243-37, authored by Sen. San Nicolas, aims to remove the statute of limitations for financial and property exploitation of an elderly person or individual with disability. According to the National

Council on Aging, up to five million older Americans are abused every year, and the annual loss by victims of financial abuse is estimated to be at least \$36.5 billion.

“Financial exploitation of our *man’amko* and individuals with disabilities is a heinous crime that should not have a statute of limitations,” said San Nicolas. “The number of exploited elderly is astounding and justifies the creation of legislation to combat this issue. All of these findings by the National Council on Aging are alarming, some-

thing which our *man’amko* and persons with disabilities need to be protected from by putting the law on their side. As a government entity that serves the people, the Guam Legislature needs to enact legislation that would protect and help the *man’amko* and people with disabilities find justice in incidents of financial exploitation and abuse. To enact legislation, the elderly victims of financial exploitation and abuse would be able to pursue justice without the added worry of a deadline to file a lawsuit.”

Guam Attorney General Douglas Moylan testified in support of the passage of the bill at its public hearing on April 1. Sen. William Parkinson is a co-sponsor of the bill. This act shall become effective upon enactment.

Additionally, Resolution 218-37 made the June session agenda. It aims to support legislation in Washington, D.C., covering the costs of shipping for adaptive vehicles for qualified veterans with disabilities.

“Thank you to my fellow lawmakers for the support in placing Resolution 218-37 on the session agenda for June,” San Nicolas, a veteran, said.

“The cost of shipping is expensive, especially for those living out here in Guam. Amending the federal law will not only cover shipping costs for adaptive vehicles or other conveyances for disabled veterans, who qualify for financial assistance, but will also help them maintain their independence.”

Under federal law, financial assistance is provided to qualified veterans with disabilities to purchase adaptive vehicles or other conveyances. Currently, such vehicles are not available in Guam, costing thousands of dollars to qualified disabled veterans.

Resolution 218-37 supports H.R. 522, Deliver for Veterans Act, introduced by Guam Congressman James Moylan in the United States House of Representatives, which seeks to cover the shipping and delivery expenses of adaptive vehicles provided for veterans with disabilities.

The bipartisan resolution is co-sponsored by Sens. Roy A.B. Quinata, Joe S. San Agustin, Parkinson, Vice Speaker Tina Muna Barnes, Amanda Shelton, Speaker Therese Terlaje, Joanne Brown, Frank Blas, Jr., Chris Barnett, Christopher Duenas, and Jesse Lujan. (PR)

Business

Mabuhay Street Market brings Filipino flavors to Mari Bar

Mari Bar is celebrating the month of Philippine Independence with the Mabuhay Street Market on Thursday, June 27, 2024, from 5pm to 9:30pm at the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan. Bring your friends, family, and loved ones to enjoy an evening filled with some of the Philippines' favorite dishes, refreshing beverages, special cocktails, and live entertainment.

The Mabuhay Street Market

features a delectable selection of food and beverages, including:

- BBQ Skewers for \$6
- Spicy Sisig Loco Moco (chicken or pork) for \$12
- Mango Ensalada Appetizer for \$4
- Halo Halo for \$9

To complement the mouth-watering food, wash it down with beverages perfect for the evening's festivities:

- Bucket of five beers (Red Horse, Michelob, Bud Light, Budweiser) for \$25
- Pitcher of draft beer for \$20



CROWNE PLAZA

Mari Bar's The Mabuhay Street Market will feature a delectable selection of food and beverages this coming Thursday, June 27.

- Special cocktails, 1898, and Katipunero for \$12 each
- Entertainment for the evening will include a live band



CROWNE PLAZA

The Mabuhay Street Market will have BBQ Skewers apenty.

US proposes rules to stop Americans from investing in Chinese technology with military uses

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Treasury Department on Friday fleshed out a proposed rule that would restrict and monitor U.S. investments in China for artificial intelligence, computer chips and quantum computing.

The proposed rule stems from President Joe Biden's August 2023 executive order regarding the access that

"countries of concern" have to American dollars that fund advanced technologies, which the U.S. government says would enhance their military, intelligence, surveillance and cyber capabilities. The order identified China, Hong Kong and Macau as countries of concern.

The Biden administration has sought to stymie the development of technologies by China,

the world's second-largest economy, that could give it a military edge or enable it to dominate emerging sectors such as electric vehicles.

In addition to the proposed rule, Democrat Biden has also placed a stiff tariff on Chinese EVs, an issue with political implications as the president and Republican Donald Trump are both trying to show voters who can best stand up to China, a geopolitical rival and major trading partner.

The proposed rule outlines the required information that

U.S. citizens and permanent residents must provide when engaging in transactions in this area, as well as what would be considered a violation of the restrictions.

It specifically would prohibit American investors from funding AI systems in China that could be used for weapons targeting, combat and location tracking, among other military applications, according to a senior Treasury official who previewed the rule for reporters on the condition of anonymity.

FDA OKs first menthol e-cigarettes, citing potential to help adult smokers

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Food and Drug Administration on Friday authorized the first menthol-flavored electronic cigarettes for adult smokers, acknowledging that vaping flavors can reduce the harms of traditional tobacco smoking.

The FDA said it authorized four menthol e-cigarettes from Njoy, the vaping brand recently acquired by tobacco giant Altria, which also sells Marlboro cigarettes.

The decision lends new credibility to vaping companies' longstanding claim that their products can help blunt the toll of smoking, which is blamed for 480,000 U.S. deaths annually due to cancer, lung disease and heart disease. E-cigarettes have been sold in the U.S. since 2007 but in recent years their potential benefits for smokers have been overshadowed by their use by adolescents and teens.

Parents and anti-tobacco groups immediately criticized the decision, which follows years of advocacy efforts to keep menthol and other flavors that can appeal to teens

off the market.

"This decision could mean we'll never be able to close the Pandora's box of the youth vaping epidemic," said Meredith Berkman, co-founder of Parents Against Vaping E-cigarettes. "FDA has once again failed American families by allowing a predatory industry to source its next generation of lifetime customers—America's children."

Youth vaping has declined from all-time highs in recent years, with about 10% of high schoolers reporting e-cigarette use last year. Of those who vaped, 90% used flavors, including menthol.

All the e-cigarettes previously authorized by the FDA have been tobacco, which isn't widely used by young people who vape.

Njoy is one of only three companies that previously received FDA's OK for vaping products. Like those products, two of the Njoy menthol varieties come as cartridges that plug into a reusable device that heats liquid nicotine, turning it into an inhalable aerosol.

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Life & Style

New Mexico judge rejects request to compel new testimony from movie armorer in Alec Baldwin trial

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP)—A New Mexico judge denied a request Friday to use immunity to compel testimony from a movie set armorer in the involuntary manslaughter trial of actor Alec Baldwin who fatally shot a cinematographer during rehearsal for the Western movie “Rust.”

Armorer Hannah Gutierrez-Reed was convicted in March of involuntary manslaughter for her role in the shooting of Halyna Hutchins on a movie-set ranch and she was sentenced to 18 months in prison. Her statements to investigators and workplace safety regulators will likely feature prominently in Baldwin’s trial, scheduled for July.

Further testimony could be limited by the armorer’s reluctance to testify, and Judge Mary Marlowe Sommer said Friday that other witnesses can fill in most of the gaps if she doesn’t testify. At a pre-trial interview in May, Gutierrez-Reed exercised her Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination and declined to answer all questions.

“It’s pretty clear that she does not intend to cooperate,” Marlowe Sommer said. “I haven’t heard of anything that she might testify to that someone else could not testify to.”

But the judge acknowledged that Gutierrez-Reed could offer new testimony about gun-safety training and whether Baldwin fully participated.

Special prosecutor Kari Morrissey indicated that the state could still call on Gutierrez-Reed to testify without

immunity. Baldwin and Gutierrez-Reed both oppose efforts to compel her testimony.

Baldwin figured prominently at her trial, which highlighted gun-safety protocols and his authority as a co-producer and the lead actor on “Rust.”

Gutierrez-Reed is appealing her conviction and has also been charged separately with carrying a firearm into a Santa Fe bar weeks before the fatal shooting.

An attorney for Gutierrez-Reed said compelling her to testify, even with immunity, would “virtually eliminate” the possibility of a fair trial on the pending firearms charge and could disrupt her appeal.

The virtual hearing also cleared the way for testimony at trial by a “Rust” crew member who says he witnessed the shooting at close range.

In a recent pretrial interview, boom operator Zac Sneesby “revealed that he was standing very close to Mr. Baldwin when he shot and killed Halyna Hutchins,” special prosecutor Erlinda Ocampo Johnson told the court Friday. “Mr. Sneesby specifically said he saw Mr. Baldwin pull the trigger. And as you know, the defense position has always been that he didn’t pull the trigger. Well, now there’s an eyewitness.”

Also during Friday’s hearing, Marlowe Sommer ruled against a request by defense attorneys to dismiss the trial because they said Baldwin had no reason to believe the gun could contain live ammunition and wasn’t “subjectively aware” of the risks.

Taylor Swift kicks off UK Eras shows

LONDON (AP)—Taylor Swift fans enjoy parsing the singer-songwriter’s lyrics for references to her romantic life and insights into her state of mind.

But the pop superstar’s fans in the U.K. didn’t have to listen closely to her latest album, “The Tortured Poets Department,” to get the sense that Swift had soured on the country’s capital city after long making it a regular hang-out and then her second home. The record’s fifth track is titled “So Long, London.”

As Swift brings her blockbuster Eras Tour to London’s Wembley Stadium this weekend, some Swifties therefore are wondering if they are witnessing the beginning of an extended goodbye.

London isn’t ready to see her go. The area around Wembley was transformed for the shows, with fans posing in front of a giant mural of the singer and traveling stairs



Taylor Swift performs at Wembley Stadium as part of her Eras Tour on Friday, June 21, 2024 in London.

turn to Wembley for five more in August to close the tour’s European leg.

London is the only city on the tour where Swift is stopping twice. Some worry the arrangement may represent a swan song of sorts, while others think it just reflects a new era in Swift’s bond with the Big Smoke. Whether “So Long, London” turns out to be a final chapter or a book-end to her valentine to the city, the song “London Boy,” Eras is arriving as an emotional milestone.

“Her relationship now kind of assumes London won’t be somewhere she will be. It’s not like there is an American football player living here,” said Maggie Fekete, 22, a Canadian graduate student who credits the London references in Swift’s music with orienting her when she moved to the city three years ago. “I think there will be a lot less London in her music, which is sad.”

Swift gave fans a wink and a nod toward her London life during one of her two solo acoustic surprise songs: a piano medley that opened with the London-set “The Black Dog” and segued into “Come Back, Be Here” and then “Maroon.”

In addition to this weekend’s shows, Swift will re-

Reality TV’s Julie Chrisley must be resentenced in bank fraud, tax evasion case, appeals judges rule

ATLANTA (AP)—Reality TV star Julie Chrisley’s sentence for bank fraud and tax evasion was thrown out Friday by federal appeals judges, who ordered a lower court to redo her punishment over what the appellate panel called a “narrow issue.”

Julie Chrisley and her husband, Todd Chrisley, who earned fame for the show “Chrisley Knows Best” that chronicled the exploits of their tight-knit family, were convicted in 2022 of conspiring

to defraud community banks out of more than \$30 million in fraudulent loans. The Chrisleys were also found guilty of tax evasion by hiding their earnings while showcasing an extravagant lifestyle.

The couple’s accountant, Peter Tarantino, stood trial with them and was convicted of conspiracy to defraud the United States and willfully filing false tax returns.

A three-judge panel of 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the convictions of the

Chrisleys and Tarantino in a ruling that found a legal error only in how the trial judge calculated Julie Chrisley’s sentence by holding her accountable for the entire bank fraud scheme. So the appellate panel sent her case back to the lower court for re-sentencing.

“We’re pleased that the Court agreed that Julie’s sentence was improper, but we’re obviously disappointed that it rejected Todd’s appeal,” Alex Little, an attorney for the couple, said in an email message.

He added that the Chrisley family was “hopeful for more good news in the future.”

Before the Chrisleys became reality television stars, they and a former business partner submitted false documents to banks in the Atlanta area to obtain fraudulent loans, prosecutors said during the trial. They accused the couple of spending lavishly on luxury cars, designer clothes, real estate and travel, and using new fraudulent loans to pay off old ones. Todd Chrisley then filed for bankruptcy, according to prosecutors, walking away from more than \$20 million in unpaid loans.

Workload and expectations don't align with paycheck

DEAR ABBY: I am experiencing significant anxiety over losing another co-worker. I am happy for her, but I’m also sad because all her responsibilities will again be dumped on me.

Our department consists of three employees. I’m the lowest-paid administrative assistant in the office and division. Our department is required by federal law to be trained on several software applications to support our students. However, our director refuses to complete her training, which means she has lost all access to the applications.

Her main concern is doing things she was not hired to do, such as homecoming, promoting Greek life to get students to pledge, etc. I am tempted to quit because I can’t handle doing my job as well as someone else’s. Unfortunately, I can’t do that because of bills and student loan debt. On top of this, I am trying to deal with the death of my favorite uncle.

I am not myself right now, nor am I in the mood to train someone new who will be earning more than me again. What advice can you give?

ANXIOUS IN THE EAST

DEAR ANXIOUS: The time to talk to your employer about a raise is NOW. That you have been forced to assume the workload of two employees and be paid less than the

one who has left is unfair. It shouldn’t happen again. Your employer needs you and likely can’t afford to lose you. However, if your request is refused, be smart. Start searching out other job opportunities that may pay better. (This may have been what led to your former co-worker leaving.)

DEAR ABBY: I am a mom of a 2-year-old and a 3-month-old, and I’m struggling. No one can prepare you for how hard it is to raise a child, let alone TWO. More than two children is beyond the boundary of my mental capacity.

I reached out to a friend who is a recent first-time mom and to a mom who has children of ages similar to my own to ask for general advice and to check in. Both of their responses were, shockingly, “Oh, things are fine here! Hope you’re doing well.”

Abby, I can’t be the only individual at my wits’ end. How do I elicit a more honest update from them? I’d love to have a more candid conversation beyond, “Oh, she screams, so I have her in a sling most of the time.” How do I probe their true feelings without overstepping?

MISERY LOVES COMPANY

DEAR MISERY: It is entirely possible that the women you contacted WERE giving you an honest update. Have you always felt this way about motherhood? It may be time

DEAR ABBY

BY ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



to talk to your OB/GYN about the extent to which you are feeling overwhelmed, because some of it may be hormonal. I do NOT recommend further “probing” the feelings of the women you contacted. You might have better luck if you talk with experienced female relatives who may be able to provide you the answers you are seeking.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in “What Every Teen Should Know.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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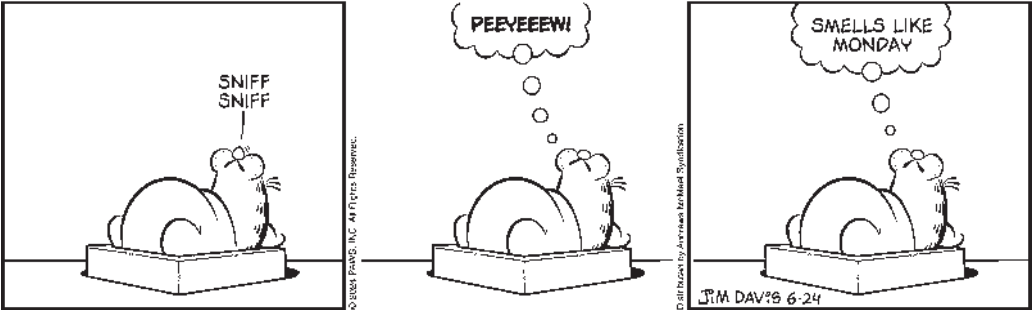
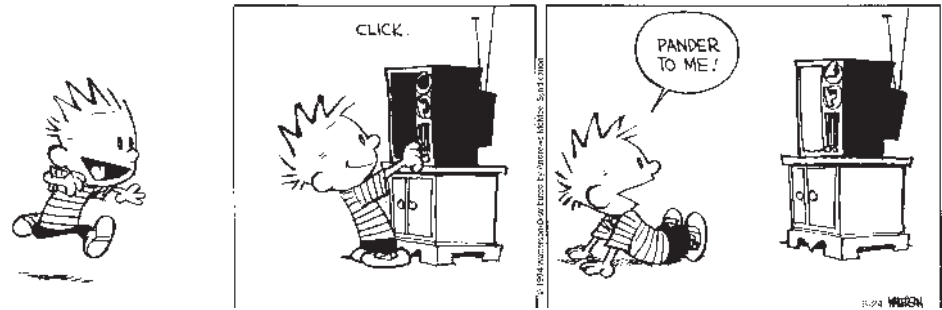
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 AOL, for one 4 Play the banjo 9 Walgreens alter-native 12 Museum-funding org. 13 Sierra — 14 Seminary subj. 15 Fitness model's "six-pack" 17 Writer Levin 18 H.S. math 19 "I, Robot" author 21 Nuanced 24 Campbell of "Scream" 25 Navarro on "The View" 26 Hog haven 28 Red-tag events 31 Opulent 33 "Game, —, match!"

35 Salt formula 36 Queried 38 Convent head 40 Bikini top 41 Delhi dress 43 Con-structs 45 Hand warmer 47 Distant 48 Notre Dame coach 49 Alaskan shellfish 54 Talk on and on 55 Biblical peak 56 Co-quettish 57 Mensa stats

58 Long 59 Sailor

DOWN 1 Squid squirt 2 Six, in Sicily 3 Bud 4 Aromas 5 Aims 6 Vitamin stat 7 City-based 8 Untidy states 9 Forensics facilities 10 — Beach, Fla. 11 Balkan native 16 Back muscle, briefly 20 Terrible guy? 21 Country singer Evans 22 "Les États—" 23 Betrays 27 Kyoto currency 29 Beige 30 Duel prompter 32 Passion 34 Gang battle 37 Stylish 39 One of the B vitamins 42 Type of navel 44 Spike's warning 45 Crèche trio 46 Persian Gulf land 50 Stop — dime 51 Play segment 52 Feathery wrap 53 Damas-cus is its cap.

Solution time: 21 mins.

Last Friday's answer 6-24

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Solange Knowles, 38; Minka Kelly, 44; Mindy Kaling, 45; Sherry Stringfield, 57.

Happy Birthday: Look over your options and creatively approach what you add to your to-do list. Combine what makes you happy with how you save or earn, and you'll have a win-win situation. Put your energy where it makes the most sense. A positive attitude will attract opportunity and boost your energy, allowing you to follow through confidently. Choose peace and love over chaos. Your numbers are 8, 14, 25, 29, 31, 38, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Think before you act or speak. Make sure you have your facts straight and a practical plan in place. The outcome of whatever situation you face will depend on what you contribute and being willing to compromise to get what's important to you. 4 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Check your emotions at the door and proceed with dignity and facts. Channel your energy into activities that help you present your attributes in a positive and helpful manner. Look for the good in others, and discover how to get things done without backlash. 3 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Live and learn. Being a good listener will broaden your scope of a situation, help you understand what you are up against and encourage you to learn whatever is necessary to accomplish your goals. Refuse to let situations escalate that can lead to a negative response. 3 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You'll shine in situations that require innovation or capturing an audience that can make a difference to the outcome of a problem you face. Don't shy away from change when

taking a unique approach will separate you from any competition you encounter. Choose a healthy lifestyle. 3 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take charge and get the ball rolling. Embrace change, chances and creativity with enthusiasm, and dazzle anyone you encounter. Spread joy instead of trying to get what you want using force. Don't allow mixed emotions to point you in the wrong direction. 3 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Think big, but live within your budget. Coming up with a functional and financially sound plan will lead to stability and approval from people you want to impress. Showing attentiveness and gratitude will win favors and support to make your life easier. Personal growth is favored. 3 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Rearrange your space to suit your needs; you'll have more time to do things that bring you joy. Refuse to let anyone talk you into something that benefits them more than you. Being direct may not be well received, but it will ease your stress. 3 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Being involved will lead to knowledge, understanding and exciting encounters. Travel, educational pursuits and participation in interest groups will help you determine what to do next. A change will introduce you to people who have something unique to offer. 3 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Rein in your spending and rethink how you choose to win approval. Trying to buy favors will send a false message. Focus on personal growth, self-love and changing how you live. Assess what's working for you. 3 stars

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A domestic change can save time and money. Look for the best way to use your cash to help you gain freedom. A partnership looks promising and will spark your creative imagination. It's time to trust in yourself and to focus on what's important. 3 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Home improvement projects will encourage you to enjoy what you've worked so hard to achieve and protect you from outside influences trying to separate you from your cash. You'll gain the most from what you have created for yourself and your loved ones. 3 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Simplifying your life will lead to contentment. Make a list of your responsibilities, and consider how to lighten the load. Concentrate on stabilization, feeling secure and enjoying what you have instead of clambering to keep up with someone else's dreams. 3 stars

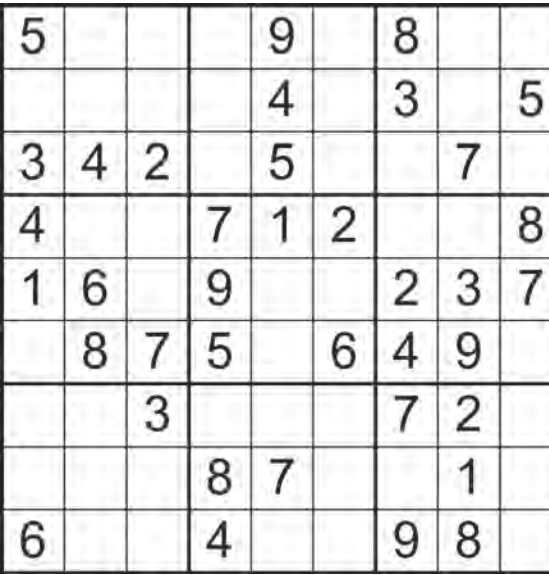
Birthday Baby: You are affectionate, charming and artistic. You are ambitious and persuasive.

3: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. 33: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. 333: Focus and you'll reach your goals. 3333: Aim high; start new projects. 33333: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

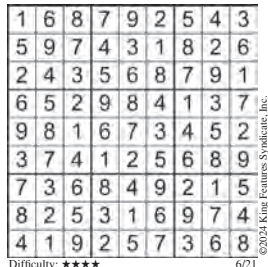
Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's Answer



Difficulty: ★ 6/24 ©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

D-DAY & NORMANDY — 80 YEARS AGO Solution: 6 letters

M E T E O R O L O G I S T S S
L E S P R O C I R O T S I H E
E L D R O W S L E N O L O C A
N A I A A T T A C K E R O O B
N I L B L D L C U E M H M O
A R S E E S E A F R B D O M R
H E D T M R R E A R O J A N
C A E A M A W T O N S U N E
H T N N Y L O T L B P T N D R
S L O K O H I R E I A E O O E
I A P S N D E N H H R T E S H
L N T E E V E S E C R E T J T
G T S S O S Y A D S E U T L A
N I O M A H A T L U A S S A E
E C P T N O R F N R E T S E W

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Aerial, Army, Assault, Atlantic, Attack, Battle, Colonel, Combat, Commandos, Corps, Eisenhower, English Channel, Fuel, Gold, Historic, Jeep, Juno, Liberate, Medals, Meteorologists, Moon, Omaha, Overlord, Postponed, Rommel, Seaborne, Secret, Ships, Shore, Stalin, Sword, Tanks, Tides, Tuesday, Utah, Water, Weather, Western Front.
Last Friday's answer: Diamond
The NEW Volume 77 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. or call 1-800-642-6480. (In Canada, call 1-855-232-2367)

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Braves beat suddenly struggling Yankees, 8-1



NEW YORK (AP)—Ozzie

Albies hit a two-run homer on Carlos Rodón's second pitch of the night, Austin Riley and Matt Olson also went deep off the left-hander and the Atlanta Braves routed the suddenly struggling New York Yankees 8-1 on Friday for their seventh win in eight games.

Chris Sale (10-2) joined Kansas City's Seth Lugo and Philadelphia's Ranger Suárez as the major leagues' only 10-game winners, getting his first victory over the Yankees since 2018.

New York has lost five of six, including three in a row while allowing 32 runs to the Braves and Baltimore, and was in danger of dropping below the Orioles into second place in the AL East. By the end of the fourth inning, the Yankees had given up runs in 13 of 14 innings, including nine in a row—tying a team record from June 16-18, 1940.

Rodón (9-4) lost his second straight start after winning seven in a row and appeared to shout at someone in the dug-out after the top of the first. He gave up eight runs -- seven earned -- in 3 2/3 innings and 11 hits, including seven for extra bases. His ERA has climbed from 2.93 to 3.86 in his last two outings.

Atlanta's first five hits were off fastballs as the Braves extended their winning streak to four. Atlanta has won four straight over the Yankees, outscoring them 26-4.

METS 11, CUBS 1 CHICAGO (AP)—J.D. Martinez, Francisco Alvarez and Brandon Nimmo homered against Shota Imanaga, and New York pounded Chicago.

Francisco Lindor had three hits and scored twice as New York won for the eighth time in nine games. Jose Iglesias went 4 for 5 with three RBIs.

The Mets became the first team to get a second look at Imanaga (7-2) during his impressive transition to the major leagues, and they tagged the Japanese left-hander for 10 runs and 11 hits in three-plus innings. Imanaga pitched seven innings of three-hit ball in a 1-0 victory at New York on May 1.

This time, the Mets scored three times before Imanaga recorded his first out. Lindor hit a leadoff double and Nimmo walked before Martinez hit a 412-foot drive to center for his ninth homer.

TIGERS 2, WHITE SOX 1 DETROIT (AP)—Carson Kelly hit an early two-run homer, Jack Flaherty was solid into the sixth inning and



Atlanta Braves' Matt Olson watches his two-run home run, near New York Yankees catcher Jose Trevino during the fourth inning of a baseball game, Friday, June 21, 2024, in New York.

Detroit snapped a four-game losing streak by holding on to edge Chicago.

The game ended when Paul DeJong, who was hit by a pitch with one out in the ninth, took off running on pinch-hitter Andrew Benintendi's flyout and apparently lost track of the outs and was doubled off first.

Flaherty (5-4) allowed one run and five hits while striking out eight in 5 2/3 innings. Beau Brieske went 1 2/3 innings in relief and Jason Foley got four outs for his 13th save.

The Tigers scored a total of three runs during their losing streak—and Kelly's homer was just enough to end the slide.

RAYS 10, PIRATES 3 PITTSBURGH (AP)—Josh Lowe homered twice, including a three-run blast in the sixth that broke open a close game, and Tampa Bay breezed past Pittsburgh.

Lowe hit a solo shot to right off Luis Ortiz in the third inning and went deep again with two aboard in the sixth to give the Rays a rare breather amid a string of tight finishes.

Tampa Bay entered Friday having had each of its previous four games decided in the final at-bat. There was no drama this time thanks to the first multi-homer game of Lowe's career.

Ben Rortvedt added three hits, including a three-run homer in the ninth. Jose Siri also had three hits. Yandy Díaz singled twice to extend his hitting streak to 13 games and his on-base streak to a career-best 23 games as the Rays finished with a season-high 17 hits.

REDS 5, RED SOX 2 CINCINNATI (AP)—

Jeimer Candelario homered twice, Andrew Abbott struck out a season-high 10 and Cincinnati beat Boston in the opener of an interleague series.

Candelario hit solo homers off Kutter Crawford (3-7) in the first and third innings. Jonathan India had solo shot off the Red Sox starter in the second, and the Reds scored two more on a throwing error by reliever Cam Booser in the seventh to halt Boston's five-game winning streak.

Abbott (6-6) allowed two runs—solo homers by Jarren Duran and Connor Wong—and four hits in 5 2/3 innings. He gave up a single to Romy Gonzalez to start the sixth and then fanned Tyler O'Neill and Rafael Devers before giving way to Fernando Cruz, who struck out Wong to end the inning.

GUARDIANS 7, BLUE JAYS 1 CLEVELAND (AP)—Carlos Carrasco pitched six strong innings and Austin Hedges hit a two-run single when Toronto's pitchers couldn't find the strike zone, lifting Cleveland to a win.

The Guardians scored seven runs in the second inning as Jays rookie starter Yariel Rodríguez (0-2) and reliever Bowden Francis needed 70 pitches to get three outs.

It was the most pitches thrown by the Blue Jays in an inning since June 21, 1995—30 years to the day.

Carrasco (3-6) won for first time in six starts and avenged a loss in Toronto last week. The 37-year-old right-hander allowed one run and four hits, struck out a season-high seven—five straight in one stretch—and

didn't walk a batter.

MARLINS 3, MARINERS 2, 10 INNINGS MIAMI (AP)—Tim

Anderson singled in the 10th inning to drive in automatic runner Jake Burger and Miami rallied past Seattle for their third straight walk-off win.

Anderson hit a grounder off Mariners reliever Austin Voth (2-1) on the first pitch that went into left field. Dominic Canzone threw to catcher Cal Raleigh at home, but Raleigh couldn't quite handle the throw and his slight bobble allowed Burger just enough time to slide home safely.

Starter Trevor Rogers struck out five over six innings, while allowing two runs and four hits as the Marlins recorded their MLB-leading eighth walk-off win of the season. Anthony Bender (2-2) worked a scoreless 10th for the win.

DIAMONDBACKS 5, PHILLIES 4 PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Lourdes Gurriel Jr., Gabriel Moreno and Joc Pederson hit homers against struggling Philadelphia starter Taijuan Walker to lead Arizona to a win.

It was the first game between the teams since Arizona won the final two games of the National League Championship Series on the road last season en route to the club's second World Series appearance.

Jordan Montgomery (6-4) allowed only five hits and two earned runs over six innings. Montgomery—who signed late in spring training as a free agent—has won his last three starts, dropping his ERA from 6.80 to 5.71.

Trea Turner and Nick Castellanos homered for Philadel-

phia, which has dropped six of its last nine games.

Walker, the Phillies fifth starter, has been the subject of speculation about being replaced in the starting rotation.

RANGERS 6, ROYALS 2 ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Marcus Semien hit three-run double to cap Texas' five-run sixth inning, Wyatt Langford had two run-scoring hits and they beat Kansas City. Nathan Eovaldi (4-3) allowed two runs and four hits and with one walk while striking out six in six innings as the Rangers won their second straight following a five-game losing streak.

Semien lined a 2-0 fastball into the left field corner after going 0 for 17 at the plate.

Langford doubled in Adolis García in the fourth inning and singled him home in the sixth, each time tying the score. Jonah Heim followed Langford with an RBI fielder's choice against John Schreiber (3-2) for a 3-2 lead.

José Leclerc, David Robertson and Kirby Yates shut out the Royals over the final three innings on two hits and one walk.

ASTROS 14, ORIOLES 11 HOUSTON (AP)—Jake

Meyers hit a three-run homer, Jose Altuve and rookie Joey Loperfido added three hits each and Houston used a nine-run sixth inning to pull away for a win over Baltimore.

Houston set a season-high in runs, a day after the Orioles had their highest-scoring game of the year in a 17-5 win over the Yankees.

The Astros trailed by 1 and had two on with two outs in the fifth inning when Meyers sent a pitch from Grayson Rodriguez (8-3) into the seats in left field to make it 5-3.

Houston sent 13 batters to the plate as they tacked on nine runs in the sixth to extend the lead to 14-3. The nine runs are the most by the Astros in an inning this season. They hit five doubles in the frame, including two from Loperfido.

NATIONALS 11, ROCKIES 5 DENVER (AP)—Luis

García Jr.'s three-run homer highlighted a five-run third inning. Drew Millas had a home run among his three hits and Washington pounded out a season-high 19 hits in a win over Colorado.

Ezequiel Tovar, Hunter Goodman, and Nolan Jones homered for the Rockies in a game in which the teams combined for 30 hits.

Jacob Young had three hits and scored three runs, and CJ

Abrams added three hits, with the first of his two doubles coming on the first pitch of the game from Dakota Hudson (2-10) to extend his career-best hitting streak to 12 games.

ATHLETICS 6, TWINS 5 OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Shea Langeliers hit a two-run homer off Jhoan Duran in the eighth inning, rallying Oakland to a win over Minnesota.

Tyler Soderstrom added two hits and three RBIs for the A's, who have won three of four since a season-high nine-game losing streak. With the victory, Oakland ended its streak of 10 consecutive months with a losing record.

Sean Newcomb (1-0) retired one batter in relief for the win. Mason Miller pitched the ninth for his 14th save.

Minnesota trailed 4-1 before Royce Lewis' solo homer in the sixth and Willi Castro's go-ahead three-run shot in the seventh. It was Castro's first home run away from Target Field in Minnesota since May 21.

PADRES 9, BREWERS 5 SAN DIEGO (AP)—Jake Cronenworth homered, had a career-high five hits, including a go-ahead single in the seventh, and scored four runs for San Diego, who beat NL Central-leading Milwaukee for their third straight win.

The Padres lost star right fielder Fernando Tatis Jr. and left fielder Jurickson Profar to injuries, and committed four errors.

Tatis was removed two innings after suffering a bruised left triceps when he was hit by a pitch on the left elbow by former San Diego pitcher Colin Rea with two outs in the third. He went down on one knee in pain and was checked by a trainer. Tatis ran the bases and took his position in right field for the next two innings. When his turn in the batting order came up in the fifth, he was replaced by pinch-hitter Tyler Wade.

ANGELS 3, DODGER 2, 10 INNINGS LOS ANGELES (AP)—

Taylor Ward singled in the go-ahead run in the 10th inning, lifting the Los Angeles Angels over the Los Angeles Dodgers 3-2 in Shohei Ohtani's first game against his old team.

Ohtani hit a two-run homer with two outs in the fifth that put the Dodgers ahead. He was 2 for 2 with two walks but got caught stealing to end the eighth. The Dodgers managed just three other hits.

Jo Adell started the 10th at second base and was sacrificed to third by Nolan Schanuel. Dodgers closer Evan Phillips (0-1) came in and retired Luis Rengifo on a groundout before Ward singled to left.

Lakers hiring JJ Redick as new head coach, an AP source says



LOS ANGELES (AP)—JJ Redick is being hired as the head coach of the Los Angeles Lakers, a person with knowledge of the decision tells The Associated Press.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity Thursday because the Lakers hadn't yet publicly announced the decision to hire the former guard for his first coaching job.

The 39-year-old Redick is an extraordinary choice by the Lakers, who hired a 15-year veteran with absolutely no coaching experience to lead a franchise with 17 NBA titles, one of the biggest brand names in world sports—and LeBron James, the top scorer in league history.

Redick was a proficient outside shooter for six teams before his retirement in September 2021, when he moved into a career in broadcasting and podcasting. He joined ESPN's lead commentary team earlier this year.

ESPN first reported the decision.

Before Redick finished broadcasting the NBA Finals, he met with the Lakers last weekend and apparently did well enough to end the

franchise's lengthy coaching search. Less than two weeks after UConn coach Danny Hurley turned down the Lakers' ardent advances, Redick has accepted the job in a remarkable three-year journey from the court to the broadcast booth to the Lakers' bench.

Redick replaces Darvin Ham, who was fired May 3 despite leading the Lakers to two playoff berths and a Western Conference finals appearance in 2023.

Redick began recording a regular podcast with James two months ago, and their "Mind the Game" collaboration is already wildly popular, with listeners often emerging impressed by the duo's basketball acumen and high-level discussion of tactics and motivation.

Now these two minds will be working together for the Lakers, with Redick leading a roster headlined by James, who is six months younger than Redick.

Everything is contingent on James deciding to return to play with Anthony Davis and the Lakers, of course. James, who will enter his 22nd NBA season this fall, could decline his \$51.4 million contract option this month to become a free agent.



Former Orlando Magic guard JJ Redick, center, watches from a court side seat during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Feb. 14, 2024, in Orlando, Fla.

But hiring Redick seems to be another calculated move by the Lakers to maximize their chances of keeping the 20-time All-Star and the driving force behind their 2020 championship team.

Redick's coaching experience is limited to his children's youth teams, but he has been around the game his

entire life. He is the leading scorer in the history of Duke, where he played four seasons under Mike Krzyzewski.

And though Redick is an unorthodox choice, his unlikely ascent is not without some precedent in Lakers lore and recent NBA history.

Pat Riley was a broadcaster for the Lakers in November 1979 when Paul Westhead took over as their head coach after Jack McKinney nearly died in a bicycle accident. Westhead hired Riley as an assistant without coaching

experience, and Riley became the Lakers' head coach in late 1981 after Westhead clashed with Magic Johnson.

Riley promptly led the Lakers to four championships in the 1980s to begin his incredible career as a coach and executive.

And then there's Steve Kerr, the former shooting guard and Phoenix Suns executive who had never coached before he took over at Golden State in 2014. Kerr has led Stephen Curry's Warriors to four championships and six

NBA Finals appearances in the past decade.

Redick's arrival ends another unusual offseason coaching search for owner Jeanie Buss, general manager Rob Pelinka and the Lakers, who are hiring their eighth head coach since Phil Jackson's final departure in 2011, and their fourth since James arrived as a free agent in 2018.

Los Angeles needed six weeks to settle on Ham in the summer of 2022, but the long-time assistant coach was dismissed after the Lakers lost to defending champion Denver in the first round of the Western Conference playoffs.

Ham led the Lakers to two winning seasons and a victory in the inaugural In-Season Tournament last year, but many fans and observers—and, clearly, the Lakers' front office—were not impressed by his leadership or preparation.

Davis memorably said during the playoffs that the Lakers "have stretches where we don't know what we're doing on both ends of the floor."

The Lakers hired Ham after firing Frank Vogel, who had been fired exactly 18 months after he won a title in the Florida bubble. Vogel replaced Luke Walton after another long coaching search in which the Lakers were widely reported to have wanted Tyronn Lue, only for a deal to fall apart over issues with money and control.

Thunder GM says Josh Giddey didn't want to come off the bench, prompting trade

CHICAGO (AP)—The Bulls and Thunder finalized a deal sending Josh Giddey to Chicago and Alex Caruso to Oklahoma City on Friday, with the Thunder granting the 21-year-old Giddey's trade request after he resisted the team's plans to use him off the bench.

Giddey, a 6-foot-8 point guard from Australia, gets a fresh start after a challenging season in which his numbers dropped and he lost his starting job in the playoffs.

In a statement, Thunder general manager Sam Presti said he told Giddey after the season that the team envisioned using him as a reserve in 2024-25 "to maximize his many talents and deploy our team more efficiently over 48 minutes."

"As we laid out to Josh how he could lean into his strengths and ultimately optimize our current roster and talent, it was hard to for him to envision, and conversations turned to him inquiring about potential opportunities elsewhere," Presti said. "As always was the case, Josh demonstrated the utmost professionalism throughout the discussions."

The Thunder went 57-25 to earn the top seed in the

Western Conference and lost to Dallas in the conference semifinals.

Giddey was frequently booed on the road this season after an anonymous social media user accused him of having an improper relationship with an underage girl, leading to investigations by police in Newport Beach, California, and the NBA.

Newport Beach police completed their investigation in January and said detectives were "unable to corroborate any criminal activity." The NBA also later dropped its investigation.

Giddey was the No. 6 overall pick in 2021 and he made the All-Rookie second team. He is a member of Australia's national team that will play at the Paris Olympics this summer. He is an exceptional passer and his size makes him a solid rebounder.

Giddey averaged 16.6 points, 7.9 rebounds and 6.2 assists in his second season, but those numbers dropped to 12.3 points, 6.4 rebounds and 4.8 assists in 2023-24.

Giddey's play improved the second half of this season after the Thunder traded for Gordon Hayward. In April regular-season games, Giddey aver-

aged 16.3 points, 7.0 rebounds and 5.5 assists while shooting 57.2% from the field.

Giddey's playing time was reduced in the playoffs. He opened the second-round series against Dallas as a starter before being moved to a reserve role for the first time in his NBA career.

The 30-year-old Caruso, who plays point guard and shooting guard, was undrafted in 2016 and played for the Thunder's G League affiliate, the Oklahoma City Blue, in 2016-17. He established himself as a defensive presence in four years with the Los Angeles Lakers and then three years with the Bulls.

He has career averages of 6.8 points, 2.9 rebounds and 2.9 assists. He averaged a career-high 10.1 points this past season. He was on the all-defense first team in 2023 and the second team in 2024.

"Alex Caruso is a player we have always highly valued and followed," Presti said. "He is the quintessential Thunder player; he is an exceptional competitor and teammate with a multi-dimensional skillset."

The Thunder also have Casson Wallace, a second-team All-Rookie selection this past season, at point guard.

Pistons fire coach Monty Williams after 1 season that ended with NBA's worst record

By **TIM REYNOLDS**
AP Basketball Writer

The Detroit Pistons fired coach Monty Williams on Wednesday after just one season that ended with an NBA-worst 14-68 record.

"Decisions like these are difficult to make, and I want to thank Monty for his hard work and dedication," Pistons owner Tom Gores said in a statement. "Coaching has many dynamic challenges that emerge during a season and Monty always handled those with grace. However, after reviewing our performance carefully and assessing our current position as an organization, we will chart a new course moving forward."

Last season was the first in what was a six-year, \$78.5 million contract for Williams—one that, at the time, was the richest ever given to an NBA coach. The team started a front office rebuild when the season ended, including the hiring of Trajan Langdon as president of basketball operations, the departure of general manager Troy Weaver and now a va-

cancy at head coach.

The firing continues a wildly strange run for Williams. In 2021, as coach of the Suns, he went to the NBA Finals, where Phoenix led 2-0 before falling in six games to Milwaukee. In 2022, he was the NBA's coach of the year in runaway voting. In 2023, the Suns fired him and now, in 2024, the Pistons have done the same.

The record for total value of a coaching contract has since been eclipsed; Miami gave Erik Spoelstra an eight-year extension worth \$120 million earlier this year.

This was, by any measure, a disaster of a season for the Pistons. They started 2-1 and didn't win another game for the next two months.

A 28-game losing streak, the longest ever in a single season in NBA history and tied for the longest ever when factoring in multiple seasons, turned the season into a debacle. The Pistons' longest winning streak was two games (done on three occasions) and the roster was constantly in flux. Detroit used

31 different players over the course of the season and 36 different starting lineups and lost 39 times by double digits.

The vacancy in Detroit is the third active one in the NBA, with Cleveland and the Los Angeles Lakers still seeking coaches. The Pistons' move comes a week before the start of the NBA draft, with Detroit set to make the fifth overall pick on June 26—someone that should be able to further enhance a young core led by Cade Cunningham, Jaden Ivey and Jalen Duren.

Those players, all 22 or younger, were the only three Pistons to start at least 60 games this past season.

"We are unwavering in our commitment to bring a championship-caliber team to Detroit," Gores said. "We will be diligent and swift in our search for a new head coach to lead our exciting young core of players and will continue our vision towards building a best-in-class front office that will help us achieve sustainable success."

HANMI Charity Golf Tournament on Aug. 24



The 22nd Annual HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tournament will be held on Aug. 24, 2024, at Coral Ocean Resort on Saipan, the Marianas.

The tournament will be open to the first 144 paid registrants. Tournament and registration details will be announced shortly.

"The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands is excited to announce the return of our annual tournament in August," said HANMI chair Dennis Seo. "We look forward to welcoming back our sponsors and players for another great tournament that HANMI is known for, recognized as

one of the most significant charitable golf events in the region. HANMI remains committed to providing regular charitable contributions to aid non-profit organizations and government projects focused on tourism. Welcome, all!"

Sponsor packages include Hole-in-One, Presidential Suite, Deluxe, Superior, VIP and In-kind, providing various levels of complimentary player slots, and publicity and marketing. To sponsor the tournament or for more information, contact tournament chair Das Krishnan at das.krishnan@ihg.com.

Last year, Me Ae Jeon topped the 21st Annual HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tour-



Me Ae Jeon poses with organizing committee members during the awards ceremony of the 21st Annual HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tournament last year at the LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort.

namment at the LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort.

The then 62-year-old entrepreneur topped the popular blackjack double peoria tournament by shooting a net score of 70.20.

Jeon fired a gross score of 81 but won due to her 10.8 handicap. Second place went to Joseph Sablan after he finished with a net score of 70.4 on the strength of his 80 gross score and 9.6 handicap.

MARK RABAGO

WRESTLING

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after the competition as he competed in the Greco-Roman 77-kg division yesterday. Even with that, the Idaho fly-in cruised undefeated to the gold medal once again for his second gold in the competition.

He won the first of two rounds as well, all by technical superiority—once he scores 8 points more than his opponent, the match is stopped like a fall, which is why they also refer to it as a technical fall. He defeated Jeton Anjain, of the Marshall Islands, 9-0, by technical superiority and lasted 1:39.

Anjain settled for silver, while Pohnpei's Paulus Barnabas was bronze.

Greene said of his first competition in the freestyle, "I can't say I'm surprised because I've been working pretty hard for this. It was fun overall." He then said that it's just his second year in the freestyle division and that "the competition was a little bit better than I was expecting. I think I was the youngest one in my weight class since this is a



LEIGH GASES
NMI wrestler Ryan Babauta, right, in a dead-lock against his opponent during his match in the Greco-Roman 97-kg division at the International Convention Center.

senior division, so I felt like I did pretty good."

On how he felt winning gold, he said, "It feels good." Representing the NMI for the first time in the Micro Games, he said, "I'm proud to represent. I will wrestle hard the next few days for us."

With his win yesterday, he said, "I am proud of myself. This is my first time back in Greco in about eight years. I mean, I'm not surprised because of the work I put in here with my partner Ryan and others, but I was a little nervous coming here because I wasn't really used to it. But I felt good overall."

For Babauta last Saturday in the freestyle 97-kg division, he recorded three wins by fall/pin, all coming in the

first round of each two-round bout. Babauta pinned Skarlee Rengul of Palau in the finals match to secure gold for NMI.

Renguul settled for silver, while bronze was Kosrae's Kenfield Mike.

In the Greco-Roman 97-kg division yesterday, Babauta went undefeated with three wins again by fall/pin, all coming in the first round of each two-round bout. Babauta was winning 8-2 when he pinned Ken Predrick of Pohnpei in the finals match to grab his second gold medal for NMI.

Silver was Kosrae's Kenfield Mike and bronze was Pohnpei's Ken Predrick.

Babauta, who competed and won bronze in the 2015 Oceania Wrestling Champion-

ships also in the Marshall Islands, said after his first day of competition, "the competition is great. It's always a humbling feeling to come out here to the Marshall Islands and represent the CNMI against other topnotch wrestlers here in the Micronesian region. For me to come out here, and put my last name, my island, my people, my culture and represent our island in the sport of wrestling has always been an honor for me."

With yesterday's gold, he said he actually competed with a slight injury to his left knee. Even with that, he said, "other than that, everything went according to plan. These guys relied on their strengths, so all I had to do was just to time it, pick my position, and just go from there—trust the process, trust my coaches, and my teammates. I believe everything happens for a reason and it happened pretty good."

The boys will take on the last event of wrestling—beach wrestling—today and try for a sweep of gold in their divisions. They are joined by coach Rick Bauer and team manager Jason Tarkong.

SWIMMERS

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Raho timing in at 1:00.38.7.

CNMI national coach Hiroyuki Kimura gave kudos not only to NMI swimmers but all open water participants for braving exhaustion and fatigue—as well as the searing heat and humidity—to partake on the ocean water swim.

"Usually, the ocean swim event is held on the last day. Everyone goes from the pool event with all their energy zapped and already burned out. I respect that they did their best despite the circumstances. NMI swimmers rarely do ocean swims, but Palau's Dirngulbai Misech, who won the women's 2.5-kilometer gold, is a total ocean swimmer. Apparently, they do

ocean swims every Saturday. NMI swimmers were admirable because they won and competed with such countries," he said.

While Kimura said the usual suspects like Pajarillaga, Aleksenko, and Maria Batalones were impressive in the ocean swim, he said Barman surprised him the most with her podium finish.

"I didn't expect her to come in third place, but I entered confidently that Sari would have the strong patience and power to endure the 5K. She won the bronze medal and defied my expectations. This is a great achievement for a 13-year-old girl," he said.

Pajarillaga said he was happy to top the 5K open water swim despite unfamiliar conditions.

"The ocean swim was good and very peaceful to swim in

an ocean I never swam in before. The best part of the swim was seeing the beautiful ocean and the last lap especially was my motivation to go faster and complete the race. The most challenging thing of the race was the heat of the sun and the length of the race."

Batalones, for her part, said the ocean swim was a great experience.

"The course was clear and the view was amazing. I'm glad I got to finish the race with another gold medal. It was challenging and it felt long at first, but after the second lap I started to enjoy it. I picked my pace up and I was able to finish my race with a good time. The best part of the swim would probably be the last lap. Seeing the goal and knowing that I got gold

was a really good feeling. The most challenging part of the swim was the current picking up during the third lap. It was challenging but I knew how to overcome it. I'm glad I didn't do this course alone and I really enjoyed ocean swims."

Aleksenko, meanwhile, said swimming in the suspected shark-infested waters off Emon Beach was truly a one-of-a-kind experience.

"It was good but I was kind of scared because it was very deep and you couldn't see the bottom at all and they said there were sharks. I think the most challenging part was trying to not focus on the sharks and what could happen," he said.

The triumphant CNMI National Swimming Team returned to Saipan early yesterday morning.

Rounding out the Top 3 was Ben Duenas, who actually tied with Sablan with a net score of 70.40.

Both golfers also hacked out identical gross scores of 80 and handicaps of 9.6. Sablan,

however, edged Duenas via scorecard playoff on hole No. 4 where Sablan made a par and Duenas came away with a bogey. Jeon, Sablan, and Duenas all went home with \$500 each. (PR)

GOLD

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morning, the women's singles finals was dominated by Isabel Heras. She blanked Pohnpei's Leilah Etschait, 4-0, 4-0.

In the men's singles finals, Robbie Schorr bagged the gold against Pohnpei's T.J. Rush Apis who suffered a wrist injury during the match.

Then, it was another easy gold in the men's doubles for Colin Ramsey and Schorr as they won via forfeit from injury to Apis and Tayshawn Erwin.

As for the women's doubles finals for Heras and Hoo Wang, they had a tougher time against Pohnpei's Leilah Etschait and Louisa Williams. They went for three tough sets, but bounced back in the end and won, 1-4, 5-3, 10-7.

The other gold medal came in the mixed doubles for Heras and Schorr, who beat Etschait and Erwin, 5-4, 4-1.

As for the bronze medals, one was won by Wang and Ramsey against Anne Skilling and Neth George Jones, 4-2, 4-1, in the mixed doubles. The other bronze was in the women's singles for Irin Chung after she beat Pohnpei's Movida Jerry, 4-2, 4-1.

Ramsey said of the competition, "It has been a crazy few days. Usually, tennis is the first to start and last to end, but with everything crammed into four days, we really had to push our bodies." He added, "It's been so nice having Robbie and Isabel playing on the team. They bring good energy and a high level. It's inspiring for the young players on our team."

As for Heras, she said the tournament "was really good, so I'm not used to it. I live in Denver so I'm used to hitting in indoor courts, so the heat really got the best of me, but my team and I really pushed through the heat, playing even six matches in a day. And, we got the gold, so I'm really proud of everyone and I'm really happy with the results as well."

With her singles finals match that was delayed for two hours, she said, "We played the red courts which worked in my favor. The ball bounces much faster at you and that really helped me with my serve and forehand, so I won quite easily compared to my previous match with her. But I'm glad I played and learned a lot of things."

As for representing the NMI, she said, "It's always a pleasure to represent Saipan—I was born and raised there, so I'm really happy to play in the Mini Games and in the Micro

Games—I always tell coach Jeff [Race], 'call me, I always want to play. I'm always happy, and always excited to make [the CNMI] proud.'"

For Schorr, who flew in from Florida, he said, "It was a good tournament with a lot of good players and a lot of good matches. The level was high and it required a lot of fight and grit from myself and the NMI team."

He added, "I definitely feel tired after a long four days of tennis but it was worth all the long days and hours in the sun. It was a really fun experience and I am very happy that I was able to be a part of it and win some gold for the NMI! I am very proud of our team for the fight and heart they showed on court and it's an experience that I don't think we will forget! I am always happy and honored to represent the NMI in the Games and will always look forward to participating in future Games. Go NMI!"

Wang, for her part in winning the women's doubles with Heras, said, "I was very nervous. I was not doing great in the first set, and my back pain was killing me, but Isabel really helped me go through the second set really well. She's such an idol—I really look up to her and she just locked us in until the third set and we were able to get the win." For the opportunity to play in the Micro Games, she said, "I love this opportunity. I've met so many great people."

As for Chung's bronze, she said, "my match went pretty well. I think that was the best singles match I've played because I think I wasn't as nervous today and I really tried my best just to control the point and I didn't make a lot of mistakes today." With the back-to-back matches, she said, "I'm really sore and the weather is crazy out here because it's always raining, then it gets sunny, then it rains again, so it's really humid and hot."

Aside from the record-setting 68 gold medals, the NMI so far has also bagged 23 silver and 29 bronze for a total of 120 medals. Just four gold medals below the CNMI is Nauru with 64 gold, 30 silver, 7 bronze for a total of 101, while host Marshall Islands is in third place with a 34-32-43 gold-silver-bronze haul and 109 overall medals.

Palau (13-57-35), Pohnpei (12-24-31), Guam (8-8-8), Kiribati (3-6-10), Chuuk (1-9-7), Kosrae (0-1-11), and Yap (0-2-2) make up the rest of the medal tally heading to the final day of competition today.



Braves beat
suddenly
struggling
Yankees, 8-1

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

NMI sweeps gold in tennis events

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

MAJURO, Marshall Islands—The long days, back-to-back matches, and all the rain delays didn't hamper the NMI National Tennis Team as they ended their long-winded tennis matches of the 2024 Micronesian Games with a sweep of gold in all events for a total of seven gold and two bronze over four days.

» Micro Games gold standard now belongs to CNMI

With the gold rush from tennis, the CNMI now has the all-time mark for most gold medals in any staging of the Micronesian Games after it currently sits with 68 gold medals. Guam held the previous record with 56 gold medals made in 1994 when it hosted the third edition of the Micro Games.

Aside from tennis, wrestling also added four gold medals to the bounty yesterday and Saturday and swimming with



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Tania Tan after her record-setting 10,000m record run in the 2024 Micronesian Games last Friday at the Majuro Track and Field Stadium.



LEIGH GASES
Isabel Heras goes for a forehand shot during her doubles finals against Pohnpei yesterday in the 2024 Micronesian Games in Majuro, Marshall Islands.

four more in the open water swim early Friday morning in Kwajalein.

Team Marianas also got five medals last Friday, including track star Tania Tan not only winning gold but also breaking the Micronesian Games' 10,000m record at the Majuro Track and Field Stadium.

Simon Tang earned a silver in the men's 110m hurdles,

while Justin Camacho was bronze in the same event. Maria Quitugua also earned a bronze in the women's 100m hurdles.

Yesterday, the NMI tennis team wrapped up the tourney with a sweep of gold in the individual matches even after a 2-hour rain delay at the USP Tennis Court and the NCD Tennis Court.

Due to the delay, all the medal rounds had to play short sets in order to finish up all the matches yesterday. When it finally got going late in the

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LEIGH GASES
From right, Isabel Heras and Hoo Wang pose for a photo after winning gold in the women's doubles finals on the last day of tennis competitions in the 2024 Micronesian Games in Majuro, Marshall Islands.

2024 MICRONESIAN GAMES Unofficial Medal Standings (As of June 23, 8pm)				
COUNTRY	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	TOTAL
Northern Marianas	68	23	29	120
Nauru	64	30	7	101
Marshall Islands	34	32	43	109
Palau	13	57	35	105
Pohnpei	12	24	31	67
Guam	8	8	8	24
Kiribati	3	6	10	19
Chuuk	1	9	7	17
Kosrae	0	1	11	12
Yap	0	2	2	4

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BRONZE: P&A, Y.K. Corporation, Artisan Corporation, I SAIPAN

NOTE: Only Northern Marianas' medal tally is updated. Other countries' medal tally is based on the unofficial results posted at the 2024 Micronesian Games website as of Sunday.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The CNMI National Swimming Team poses after the 2024 Micronesian Games open water early Friday morning off Emon Beach in Kwajalein.

NMI swimmers dominate ocean swim

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
EDITOR

The CNMI National Swimming Team proved equally adept in open water as they were in the pool after dominating anew the 2024 Micronesian Games' ocean swim early Friday morning off Emon Beach in Kwajalein.

NMI swimmers won gold

in both the men's and women's 5K open water swim with Kean Pajarillaga and Maria Batallones submitting times of 1:01:52.00 and 1:07:25.00, respectively. Sari Barman was third for the women with a time 1:20:31.00

Isaiah Aleksenko also ruled the men's 2.5K open water swim after he emerged from the surf in 28:44.00.

Richard Zhao added a bronze in 33:15.63. Shoko Litulumar settled for the silver in the women's 5K open water swim after she clocked in at 35:10.00, while Frances Raho was third in 35:19.00. The NMI Swim Team also won the mixed 5K open water relay swim with Aleksenko, Pajarillaga, Batallones, and

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Double gold for James, Ryan in wrestling

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

MAJURO, Marshall Islands—Wrestlers James Attao Greene Jr. and Ryan Babauta are bringing wrestling back and with style as they don their necks with bling in the form of two gold medals each on both days of wrestling competitions in the 2024 Micronesian Games.

On the first day last Saturday, Greene took to the mats and blew all his competition away in the freestyle 79-kg division for the first gold for the NMI National Wrestling Team in the Games.

The 17-year-old shared the mat with men older than him and dominated the field. He went undefeated in all three of



LEIGH GASES
NMI wrestler James Attao Greene Jr. put his opponent in a headlock during his match in the Greco-Roman 77-kg division at the International Convention Center.

his bouts—and in the first of two rounds as well—all by technical superiority, meaning he scored 10 points more than his opponent, and in this case, he defeated silver med-

alist and Marshall Islands' J.R. Leban, 12-2.

Bronze is Sebastian Peralta also from the Marshall Islands. He then shed some weight

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